

Security Council meets today

UNITED-NATIONS (R) — The Security Council will resume debate Wednesday on the situation in the Israeli-occupied territories, Arab League U.N. representative Clovis Makound said Tuesday. He was speaking to reporters after a meeting between Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and members of an Arab ministerial committee on the occupied territories, headed by Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahim. Other members of the ministerial delegation that saw Perez de Cuellar were Saudi Arabian Minister of State Ibrahim Massoud, Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa, Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Khuri, and the head of the Palestine Liberation Organization's Political Department, Farouk Kaddoumi. Makound said he expected Kaddoumi and Ibrahim to take part in Wednesday's council meeting. The Arab group, except for Kaddoumi, was later to confer in Washington with Secretary of State George Shultz. Perez de Cuellar issued a statement Tuesday expressing "acute concern" about the deteriorating situation in the occupied territories and especially the continued killing and wounding of unarmed civilians.

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جريدة تأييد يومية مستقلة تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية - الرأي

King contributes 1 month's allocations

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has decided to donate his allocations for the month of March to the Zakat Fund to help families of Palestinians killed, wounded and arrested in the 15-week-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories. Prime Minister Zaid Rifai announced Tuesday. Rifai also said that the Council of Ministers, upon a directive from the King, had decided to contribute one day's wage of all government employees to the Zakat Fund to help the Palestinians under Israeli occupation.



HM King Hussein

King Fahd to visit Egypt soon

CAIRO (R) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia will visit Egypt "as soon as possible" for the first trip to Egypt by a Saudi monarch in more than a decade, a senior Saudi official said Tuesday. King Fahd will seize the first opportunity to coordinate with his brother President (Hosni) Mubarak to pay an official visit to Egypt as soon as possible, Prince Faisal Ibn Fahd, head of the Saudi Youth Organization, said after talks with Mubarak. Egypt's Middle East News Agency (MENA) quoted the prince as saying he handed Mubarak a message from King Fahd on bilateral relations. (Fahd dismisses Israeli threats, page 5)

Israel declares alert in S. Lebanon

RASHAYA (R) — Israeli troops in South Lebanon and their local militia allies were on full alert Tuesday to repulse possible "Land Day" attacks by Lebanese and Palestinian fighters, sources said. They said Israeli troops and the South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia feared assaults connected with Wednesday's commemoration of the 1976 killing of six Arabs demonstrating against Israeli land seizure. The sources said Israeli tanks and troops patrolled the edges of Israel's self-declared "security zone," and SLA men were deployed in hill-top bunkers. Israeli helicopters patrolled the area, they said.

Special Romanian envoy meets Peres

TEL AVIV (R) — A special adviser to Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu held two meetings in Israel this week with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, an Israeli foreign ministry spokesman said Tuesday. The adviser, Ion Staias, met Peres Monday night and again Tuesday, the spokesman said, but gave no further details. The Romanian embassy in Tel Aviv said Staias would leave for home later Tuesday.

Meese aides quit

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number two official in the Justice Department and the head of the department's criminal division abruptly handed in their resignations Tuesday amid continuing legal problems for their boss, Attorney General Edwin Meese. Deputy Attorney General Arnold Burns and Assistant Attorney General William Weld announced in letters to President Ronald Reagan that they were stepping down. Both have been serving in their positions since Oct. 17, 1986.

Britain not to probe Vanunu 'kidnap'

LONDON (AP) — The government said Tuesday there was no evidence to contradict Israel's claim that Mordechai Vanunu left Britain of his own volition before turning up in an Israeli prison on charges of spilling his country's nuclear secrets. Home Secretary Douglas Hurd said the Conservative government would not be investigating the alleged abduction plot. Vanunu's family says the former Israeli nuclear technician was lured to Rome in September 1986 by an American woman named Cindy, then kidnapped by Israeli Mossad agents, who spirited him back to Israel.

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Palestinians defy Israeli siege; 11 injured in clashes

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops shot and wounded 11 Palestinian protesters Tuesday in continued anti-occupation demonstrations despite Israel's unprecedented closure of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip for three days.

uprising could remain in force beyond Friday.

Shomron said it was too early to tell whether the measures, which also banned Palestinians from leaving the occupied territories and clamped a non-stop three-day curfew on the entire Gaza Strip, were working.

Elsewhere, a 13-year-old Palestinian girl was taken to Rafidieh hospital in Nablus after being wounded by rubber bullets, the PPS said.

New Israeli restrictions prevent the media from entering the occupied territories.

Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Dan Shomron said the most severe clampdown in nearly four months of Palestinian

return to the United States from that trip April 26.

Reporters at the State Department news briefing focused their questions on the Middle East trip — the secretary's third to the region in the past two months. Redman was also asked about Shultz's 90-minute meeting March 26 with Dr. Edward Said and Dr. Ibrahim Abu Lughod, two prominent Palestinian-Americans who are members of the Palestine National Council (PNC), legislative body of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

The spokesman said the meeting had been "useful," but he emphasised that it had been

(Continued on page 5)

Rabin told Israel Radio. "But I've always said we have to adjust our measures to confront every eventuality."

The Gaza Strip was singled out for particularly harsh restrictions, in part because the uprising began there Dec. 9 and also because it is easier to cut off the 10-kilometre-long strip.

"No human beings are on the streets. It's like a cemetery. The army announced over loudspeakers 'anyone who leaves their home will be shot,'" said Mayor Rashad Al Shawaa told the AP.

He said he saw soldiers fire on a handful of Palestinians who left their homes in his neighbourhood in defiance of the curfew.

Shawaa said the telephone call from the AP was the first he had received in 26 hours. Most telephone lines to Gaza remained cut Tuesday night.

Clashes also broke out in the Dheisheh and Al Amari refugee

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(Continued on page 5)

Shultz trip aimed at stressing 'equity and balance' of Mideast peace plan

WASHINGTON (USIA) — During his forthcoming trip to the Middle East, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz will emphasize that the peace plan proposed by the United States this month represents a fair and balanced approach to the Arab-Israeli problem and that decisions need to be made," State Department spokesman Charles Redman said Monday.

He said Shultz would leave Washington Thursday for Rome where he will meet with Italian officials April 1-2 before continuing on to Israel April 3. While in the Middle East, Shultz will visit Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Saudi Arabia before returning to Washington about April 8.

Redman also announced that Shultz would leave Washington April 19 for talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and other Soviet leaders in Moscow April 21-25 to prepare for President Reagan's May 29-June 2 Moscow summit with Mikhail Gorbachev. Shultz will

East bloc hopes for arms pact

SOFIA (R) — Warsaw Pact foreign ministers met Tuesday hoping that superpower leaders can agree to slash long-range nuclear missiles when they meet this spring.

Western diplomats said the seven pact ministers, from the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Romania, also seemed set to discuss the East bloc's ethnic minorities at their two-day conference.

Bulgaria's official BTA news agency said the ministers unanimously endorsed Soviet efforts towards an early treaty on the reduction and elimination of strategic offensive arms.

Both superpowers want a pact to halve the number of long-range missiles ready for when Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev meets U.S. President Ronald Reagan in Moscow in late May and early June.

But some analysts doubted that negotiators at the Geneva strategic arms limitation talks (START) will have a draft treaty ready in time.

BTA said in its report of the meeting: "By preference, this treaty should be signed during the next meeting of the leaders of the USSR and the U.S."

Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze said on the eve of the conference that agreement was possible but problematic.

Asked whether a Moscow signing was still possible, Shevardnadze told Reuters: "Yes, there is a possibility, though the task is very difficult."

arranged solely "for an exchange of views. This was not a negotiating format but rather a chance for the secretary to meet with some Americans who have some special insight."

These two individuals came as American citizens, as prominent Americans who know something about the region, who have some special insight, and with whom the secretary had a useful discussion," Redman reiterated.

He declined to respond to public objections to the meeting voiced by some Israeli officials.

Redman pointed out that the PNC and the PLO "are not

aligned with the United States from

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(Above) photo of Salt in 1907 by David Gordon Lyon (Courtesy Harvard Semitic Museum), and (below) the Abu Jaber house in Salt, still well preserved and inhabited today.



A short history of Jordan - II

From Ottoman corruption to bedouin hostility

By Dr. Raouf Sa'd Abujaber

The following is the second of three articles summarising Jordan's history in the 19th century. The writer, a leading Jordanian businessman, is a researcher in contemporary history. He recently obtained his doctorate degree in history from St. Anthony's College at Oxford.

INSTABILITY during the first years of the 19th century was not only due to local factors. In 1224 H/1809 A.D. the Wahhabi thrust northwards was acquired bigger dimensions. 'Abd al-Aziz Ibn Muhammad, the Saudi prince who had already occupied Hijaz and its holy places, led his tribesmen with the declared intention of conquering firstly the Wilaya of Damascus and later the whole of Bilad al-Sham. When the news reached Damascus that 'Abd al-Aziz was already near al-Muzayrib in the Hawran, the Wali, Yusuf Kanji Pasha, gathered whatever forces he could and went out to meet the invaders. Simultaneously he called for assistance from Sulayman Pasha al-Adil (the Just), successor to the Wali of Acre al-Jazzar who had died in 1319 H/1805 A.D. Sulayman responded favourably, moved his forces and issued instructions to all the notables in his domain to meet him with their forces in the environs of Tabariyya, the city on the lake of the same name (Tiberius). Among those who answered the call were the tribesmen of Transjordan including Sa'd al-Qirdan al-Fayiz, Sheikh of one of the groups of the Bani Sakhr, and Ishaq, Sheikh of the second faction. They both gathered their horsemen and joined the campaign at Tabariyya. In the meantime, Sultan Mahmud II (1808-1839) had sent a fireman to Sulayman Pasha, ordering him to relieve Yusuf Pasha of his post, confiscate his wealth, and put him to death. Somehow, a certain Sheikh Nimir, of the Bani Sakhr, acquired knowledge of this secret. He galloped at night to al-Muzayrib, informed Yusuf Pasha of the affair and rode back without anybody knowing about his mission. 'Abd al-Aziz found it more expedient to withdraw since the element of surprise was no longer on his side and the combined forces he had now to fight were much stronger than he had anticipated. Yusuf Pasha, in turn, withdrew to Damascus, where he was besieged by Sulayman Pasha who was intent on executing the orders of the Sultan. A battle between the forces of the Wilaya of Damascus and the Wilaya of Acre took place just outside Damascus, at the village of Daraya. The Wilaya of Acre was victorious, and Yusuf Pasha immediately fled to Egypt where he was very well received in Cairo by yet a third governor of the troubled Ottoman Empire, Muhammad 'Ali Pasha.

The importance of the role played by the Transjordanian tribes in the political and military events was once more strongly manifested. Their function, as people of the dira between Hawran and northern Hijaz, was to fight back any bedouin incursions into their territory from the south

or the east, and at the same time to maintain control of the annual pilgrimage operation and its economic benefits. They would have welcomed more stability in their own domain but the weakness and inconsistency of the central government made this impossible.

The administration in Istanbul arranged matters so that governors did not stay long enough in their posts. They were fleeced before they got their appointments and whatever expenses they incurred were mercilessly collected many times over from the already impoverished people in the wilayat (provinces). They were made to fight amongst themselves, which besides draining the resources of the wilayat, brought havoc and destruction to the countryside. The governors themselves played the same game but on the level of the administration in their own governorships. They encouraged faction against faction and in the Transjordanian area they appealed the big tribes, such as the different branches of the 'Anaza, and tightened their hold over the smaller ones. It was the people at large who suffered the consequences of all this. The well-known historian Sati' al-Husni, in the early 20th century described these times thus:

"These events were not out of the ordinary in the history of the Ottoman Empire. They were the symptoms and natural outcome of illnesses and diseases that had

penetrated the body of the state,

causing disintegration in its different structures without sparing a single one.

The Wahhabi threat, which

was averted by the unusually fast reaction of the two governors in Damascus and Acre, however, did not die completely. A year later, Burckhardt confirms a new, but more peaceful, attempt at expansion. 'Abd al-Aziz Ibn Muhammad Ibn Sa'ud is reported as:

"Sending two Wahhabi tax-gatherers from Madina to al-Karak but they departed without obtaining a single piaster. During their stay, however, tobacco was banished from the guest's room at the Sheikh's house, in conformity with the religious practices of the Wahhabis and the Muslims of Karak showed their adherence to the faith, by going regularly to prayers which few of them were in the habit of doing, the Sheikh

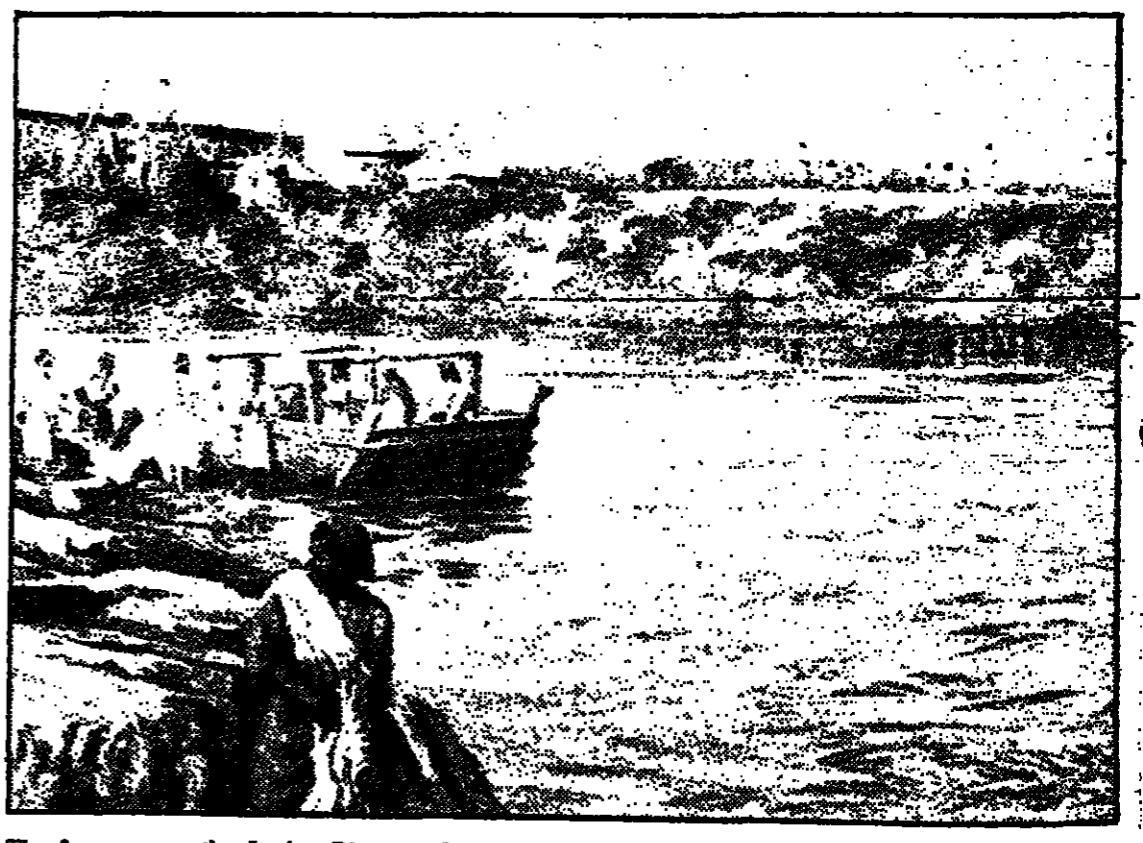
The Sheikh was Yusuf al-Majali who, together with his descendants and clansmen, played an important role in the political life of the area all through the 19th and 20th centuries.

It has now become possible to draw a picture of general conditions in the early 19th century as they were found by certain famous travellers. The Austrian M. Seetzen, known as Hakim Musa, in the autumn of 1806, the Swiss John Lewis Burckhardt, known as Sheikh Ibrahim, in the summer of 1812, and the Englishman James Buckingham in the winter of 1816. Practically contemporaneous with Buckingham, two commanders in the British Royal Navy, the Honourable Charles Leonard Irby and James Mangles, visited Transjordan and recorded their notes and impressions. The notes of the Finnish traveller George August Wallin, known as Sheikh 'Abd al-Wali, were also referred to, although his visit took place some 30 years later in the spring of 1845. Drawing on the reports these men made during their travels and numerous contacts with the people

of the area, it is now possible to compile a description of the villages and their population during that era. The numbers continued in the same range of 50,000-60,000 people.

All the travellers realised the difficulties of making such trips in countries that did not have any central government. They were all at the mercy of, and subject to the exactions of, the bedouins. This explains many a time the bitterness in some of their remarks and the warmth with which they mention hospitality for its own sake. They were all impressed by the possibilities of a land that had a very small population and prayed for the peace that would allow it to prosper. Although some of their remarks are personal and prejudiced, the present generation is nevertheless grateful that these records have been written.

Generally, conditions were most unfavourable for the development of agriculture. Almost the entire population, whose livelihood depended on different farming activities, was caught between two evils. On the one hand, they had to live under a weak and corrupt administration, whilst on the other they had to co-exist with a harsh and exploitative bedouin presence. Although both the administration and the bedouins despised farming, they were ready to take advantage of the impoverished people engaged in it. They not only mistreated farmers but were also intent on exploiting them to the last degree. No wonder therefore that villages were very small and only a few families lived in each of them. On the whole, villages were larger and more abundant in the mountainous areas than in the open country, as the mountains afforded better protection against the frequent raids of bedouin horsemen.



The ferry across the Jordan River at the turn of the century, a drawing by L. Skeats.

TV & RADIO	WHAT'S GOING ON	FOR THE TRAVELLER	USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.
JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 73111-19	TODAY'S EVENTS EXHIBITIONS ★ Egyptian Book Exhibition at the Professional Association Union. ★ Book exhibition at the Comprehensive Commercial Centre (Tower Building), Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle (permanent). ★ General book exhibition at the Professional Association Complex in Shmeisani. ★ Art exhibition by Samia Zarour at the Jordan National Museum of Fine Arts (until end of March). ★ Art exhibition by Mohammad Boulos and Mourita Al Tunisah at the Housing Bank Gallery (runs through April 19). ★ First School Arts Exhibition at Ahmad Touqan School. Open during school hours until June 1983. ★ Exhibition for the Spanish artist Maria Dolores Trivedo at the Spanish Cultural Centre (until March 30). ★ First School Arts Exhibition at Ahmad Touqan School. Open during school hours until June 1983. ★ Exhibition for the Spanish artist Maria Dolores Trivedo at the Spanish Cultural Centre (until March 30). ★ From Gutenberg to Electronics Dar el-Tifl (until 11 April) Goethe Institute. ★ Russian House Exhibition at 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Sa'eqh Commercial Centre, Abdali.	BAZARS ★ A charitable bazaar, including embroideries, straw work, coordination of flowers, pictures and plates made by disabled children from Farah Centre, Hussein Medical Centre (ends Wednesday). ★ Charitable bazaar, held by Hamzeh Islamic Cultural Centre for Women at Ain Karim Society (runs until Monday April 19). SERVICE CLUBS Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m. Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m. Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m. Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m. Royal Automobile Club, Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816334, 817534. CHURCHES St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman. Tel. 624590. Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman. Tel. 678906, chaplain's residence tel. 601359. Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331. Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 775261. St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751. Assumption International Church (Inter-denominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel. 67534. Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman, Arabic Service: Sunday 7 p.m., Rev. N. Smir, tel. 811295.	QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 53300-5, where it should always be verified. ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1) 09:15 Agaba (RJ) 09:30 Cairo (RJ) 09:36 Kuwait (RJ) 09:38 Damasus (RJ) 09:58 Dhabra (RJ) 10:00 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ) 10:45 Cairo (RJ) 11:45 Athens (RJ) 17:40 New York, Amsterdam (RJ) 18:45 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ) 18:45 London, Geneva (RJ) 19:30 Madrid, Belgrade (RJ) 18:45 Bangkok (RJ) 18:45 Riyadh (RJ) 23:25 Bagdad (RJ) DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 2) 07:18 Karachi (PK) 09:25 Cairo (MS) 10:30 Rome (AZ) 11:45 Kuwait (AZ) 12:15 Sana'a (IY) 12:20 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF) 12:20 Kuantan (KU) 12:20 Jeddah, Medina (SV) 12:20 Bagdad (IA) 12:20 Frankfurt, Damascus (LH) 21:15 Paris, Larnaca (AF) 21:55 Tripoli, Damascus (PK) OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2) 05:30 Cairo, London (BA) 07:30 Laraca, Zurich (SR) 08:10 Damascus, Tripoli (PK) 10:20 Cairo (MS) 11:30 Rome (AZ) 13:00 Tripoli (LN) 13:15 Jeddah, Sana'a (IY) 13:30 Doha, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF) 14:35 Kuwait (KU) 16:00 Bahrain (BA) 16:00 Medina, Jeddah (IY) 22:35 Karachi (PK) PRAYER TIMES 04:42 Fajr (Sunrise) / Dhuhr 05:22 Dhuhr 11:40 Asr 15:17 Magrib 17:59 'Isha 19:18 PRAYER TIMES 04:42 Fajr (Sunrise) / Dhuhr 05:22 Dhuhr 11:40 Asr 15:17 Magrib 17:59 'Isha 19:18 MONEY EXCHANGE Tuesday rates Local sell/buy rates in fils Belgian franc 95/3 97.6 Dutch guilder 177.9/ 182.1 French franc 58.9/ 60.3 Italian lira 27/ 27.7 Japanese yen (for 100) 264.4/ 278.8 Swedish krona 56.5/ 57.1 U.K. sterling pound 241.9/ 247.9 U.S. dollar 333.3/ 339 W. German mark 199.8/ 204.5 WEATHER Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. It will be partly cloudy to cloudy with scattered showers in the northern areas. A sharp drop in temperature is expected with south-westerly freshening winds. In Agaba, it will be partly cloudy with southerly freshening winds and calm seas. Min/max. temp. Amman 6/ 13 Aqaba 14/ 25 Deserts 7/ 18 Dhahran 10/ 21 Jordan Valley 17/ 26 MARKET PRICES Upper/lower price in fils per kg. Apple (French) 420/ 360 Apple (green) 470/ 400 Banana (Makhammar) 350/ 300 Onion (green) 320/ 260 Onion (dry) 220/ 170 Potato 240/ 180 Potato (small) 80/ 50 Garlic (dry) 140/ 100 Garlic (green) 160/ 120 Lemon 210/ 160 Marrow 320/ 260 Onion (green) 320/ 260 Onion (dry) 220/ 170 Potato 240/ 180 Potato (small) 80/ 50 Garlic (green) 160/ 120 Lemon 210/ 160 Marrow 320/ 260 Onion (green) 320/ 260 Onion (dry) 220/ 170 Potato 240/ 180 Potato (small) 80/ 50 Garlic (dry) 140/ 100 Tomatoes 280/ 240
PROGRAMME ONE 15:30 Koran 16:10 Children's programmes 16:40 Horizons of Knowledge 17:10 Israa Globe TV 17:40 Local series 18:30 Programme on Jordanian universities 19:00 Cairo News Magazine 19:30 Programmes in Arabic 20:30 News in Arabic 21:30 Local programme on the Jordan Valley 22:00 News summary in Arabic 23:00 News summary in Arabic	 BBC WORLD SERVICE 639, 720, 132 KHz 06:49 Newsdesk 06:30 Byron Readings 06:59 Book Choice 06:45 Reflections 07:00 Financial News 07:00 World News 07:00 24 Hours: News Summary 07:30 Report on Religion: The Wonders Cross 07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Meridian 09:00 World News 09:00 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 09:30 Development 09:30 World News 09:45 Developments 09:45 Special Record Review 10:15 Just a Minute 11:00 World News 11:00 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News: Sports Roundup 11:45 Folk in Britain/Jazz Scene U.K. 12:00 News Summary: Omnibus 12:30 Yes Minister 13:00 World News 13:00 News about Britain 13:15 Byron Readings 13:25 The Wondrous Cross contd. 13:30 Meridian 14:30 Radio Newcastle 14:15 Great Love Duets 14:25 The Farming World 14:45 Sports Roundup 15:00 World News 15:00 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 15:30 Development 15:30 Outlook: News Report on Religion 17:00 Radio News 17:15 A Hobby - or a Way of Life? 17:30 Two Cheats for March 18:00 World News 18:00 Commentary 18:15 Rock Salad 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News 21:00 Horizon - The Brain (How it Works) 21:35 Tales of the Unexpected 22:00 News in English 22:20 Fields of Fire (drama series) RADIO JORDAN 555 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 4500 KHz, SW Tel: 73111-19	 EMERGENCIES Amman governorate 891228 Amman Civil Defence 198, 199 Civil Defence Irbid 271293, 271311 Civil Defence Irbid 770733 Civil Defence Deir Alla 57306 Ambulance 193, 775111 Amman downtown fire brigade 198 First aid 6301341 Police 7783403 Fire and rescue 661111 Five brigadiers 661094 Police rescue 192, 621111, 621777 Police headquarters 639114 Traffic police 896300/1 Electric Power Co. 636381/4, 624851 Municipal water complaints 7711258 Queen Alia Int'l. Airport (08) 53300/60	 NIGHT DUTY AMMAN: Dr. Mousa Bashir 615487 Dr. Joseph Ismail 70560 Dr. Hisham Abu Arqub 891122 Dr. Dawoud Al Samhour 778546 Firas pharmacy 661912 Firdous pharmacy 778536 Al Asema pharmacy 637055 Nairoukh pharmacy 622672 Al Salam pharmacy 636730 Police rescue 192, 621111, 621777 Police headquarters 639114 Traffic police 896300/1 TAXIS: Al Jeta taxi 776061 Al Qasi (Abu Joudah) taxi 743806 Wisan taxi 776773 Ra'ad taxi 898553 Rawda taxi 741572 Umaya taxi 775780 Muab taxi 853082 IRBID: Dr. Abed Mansi 277567 Shara'a pharmacy 277582 ZARQA: Dr. Mu'eed Danna 980557 Khalilch pharmacy 984417 GENERAL Jordan Television 7731119 Radio Jordan 7741119 Ministry of Tourism 642311 Hotel complaints 666412 Price complaints 661176 Telephone Information 12 Jordan and Middle East calls 10 Overseas calls 17 Repair service 11
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Crown Prince pays tribute to PSD

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday paid tribute to the Public Security Department (PSD) and all members of the security and police force for their efforts that contributed to the success of the 17th Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) foreign ministers meeting in Amman.

He said thanks to the PSD's contribution, a very comfortable and secure atmosphere has been provided for the delegates, enabling them to fulfill their duty and arrive at a successful outcome.

Prince Hassan who was addressing PSD Director General Lieutenant General Abdul Hadi Al Majali and senior PSD officers at the Al Hussein Youth City, conveyed His Majesty King Hussein's greetings and appreciation to the police and security officers and said: "Jordan can rightly claim to be an oasis of security and stability, reflecting its positive effect on regional and international meetings in Amman."

The success of the November Arab summit meeting and the numerous conferences and meetings at the regional, Arab and international levels held in Amman, depended largely on the positive and secure atmosphere created for the participants and delegates by the Jordanian security system, Prince Hassan said.

Prince Hassan also lauded the PSD's plans for introducing the comprehensive security concept to police work in the Kingdom, and said that such plans are bound to bring about further cooperation between the police and the public, which in turn would enhance security and stability.

In reply the PSD director pledged that the security system will continue to work under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein to offer better service to the nation.

Prince Hassan visits Duleil

Also on Tuesday Prince Hassan urged concerned parties to implement good quality services and developmental projects in the Duleil district and avoid unorganized construction and building operations as much as possible.

Addressing a meeting at Duleil municipality attended by local officials and notables, Prince Hassan said that the five-year

development plan in Jordan is being implemented "mainly to help develop citizens' capabilities, who in turn can develop their country."

In referring to problems of illegal public use of state-owned land in the eastern regions of Mafraq, Prince Hassan urged municipal and local government authorities to set up housing estates in these areas, benefiting the largest sector of the public, through a well-defined program.

He said this step should be taken in order to stem the encroachment on buildings over valuable agricultural land.

Prince Hassan said specialised teams would be making tours of different regions to conduct assessments of steps taken in the implementation of schemes included in the five-year development plan.

Prince Hassan later visited the model school at Duleil which has vocational training workshops and other facilities in addition to classes accommodating 1,500 students for academic courses.

The school which cost JD 2.5 million to build will open its doors for the students on April 16.

Crown Prince inaugurates broiler chicken project

Following his visit to Duleil Prince Hassan visited Azraq where he unveiled a plaque marking the official inauguration of a broiler chicken project.

Later he chaired a meeting for the Arab Company for the Development of Animal Health (ACDAW) and stressed the need for more efforts to help ensure food security for the Arab World, and free the Arab nation from foreign economic domination.

The Arab information services should be highlighting the dangers of foreign economic domination in a bid to encourage Arab countries to increase their food production and achieve economic integration."

Prince Hassan referred to the failure of pan-Arab companies to compete with foreign products in world markets, and said that once the Arabs begin to give more attention to quality rather than quantity, they can offset these problems and difficulties.

The project is being implemented by the ACDAW which was set up by the Council



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday thanks the Public Security Department (below) the Prince visits municipality of Duleil (Petra photos)



of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU).

The project, initiated in 1986, is currently producing 415,000 egg-laying hens, six million chickens for meat and seven million table eggs annually.

Once the project goes into full

production a total of 13 million eggs will be hatched annually.

The ACDAW board chairman, who spoke on the occasion, said that the project in Azraq was one of 22 other projects being implemented by ACDAW in Arab countries.

Jordan limits number of Muslim pilgrims to 15,000

AMMAN — Jordan has received no notification from Saudi Arabia for limiting the Kingdom's pilgrims to Mecca this year, nevertheless Jordan has decided to send no more than 15,000 Muslims to perform the annual pilgrimage in the holy places.

Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Secretary General Abdul Salam Abbadi was quoted as saying here Tuesday.

Al Ra'i Arabic daily quoted Abbadi as saying that Jordan will send no more than 15,000 Muslims to Mecca in view of the limited area for worshippers performing their rites in the Islamic Holy Land.

"Saudi Arabia made earlier announced arrangements for limiting the number of pilgrims coming from Iran in view of last year's bloody disturbances in Mecca which caused the death of 400 people.

The Islamic foreign ministers' meeting in Amman last week supported Saudi Arabia's measures which are intended to safeguard the pilgrimage and the lives of innocent people.

Abbadi said all pilgrims going to Mecca from Jordan and occupying Palestine should not exceed 15,000, and the decision has already been conveyed to Saudi Arabia.

Arrangements are underway in cooperation with transport companies and landlords to transport and put up the pilgrims while in Mecca, Abbadi said.

A team from the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs will soon go to Mecca and Medina in order to inspect preparations for accommodating the pilgrims, Abbadi noted.

He said the PSD said that the King Hussein Bridge and the Prince Mohammad Bridge will be closed as of Tuesday for those coming to the East Bank from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip but will allow those travelling from the East to the West Bank only.

Schools to close for spring holiday from April 2-16

AMMAN — Schools around the Kingdom will close for the spring holiday from Saturday April 2, and reopen on Saturday April 16, according to Ministry of Education's Examination Department Director Ahmad Tagi.

His statement appearing in the Al Ra'i Arabic daily Tuesday put an end to rumours around schools that the Ministry of Education was contemplating shortening the holiday to one week only.

Al Dustour newspaper has meanwhile reported an order from Education Minister Thour

gan Hindawi that the first period in private and public schools in Jordan on Wednesday should be devoted to discussing the meaning of Land Day, an annual tradition observed in commemoration of Arab martyrs that fell at the hands of Israeli forces driving them out of their land.

The minister asked that teachers and educators to explain to the students the implications of the event and the need for solidarity with the Palestinian people resisting Israeli occupation.

Man strangles sister

AMMAN — A 27-year-old man identified only as N.M. Kh killed his 23-year-old sister by strangling her with a towel.

The murder, according to Al Dustour newspaper, occurred at their home in Khirfan Street on Jabal Amman. The man was apprehended and the police were holding an investigation.

Al Ra'i newspaper reported the death of a 30-year-old Egyptian worker after falling from a crane at the building site of the new Tafih Hospital.

According to the paper a group

of Civil Defence Department officers rescued a boy named Mahmoud Hawamdeh who fell in Jerash stream.

The paper said that the boy's heart had stopped for a minute and a half but rapid first aid and operations saved his life.

The boy was recuperating at the Jerash Government Hospital.

In Tafih an 80-year-old woman died and two children aged 12 and 10 were admitted to hospital suffering from suffocation after sleeping in a closed room with the kerosene heater on.

Jordan marks Land Day today

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Wednesday observes the Land Day anniversary, which commemorates the death of six Palestinian Arabs in an anti-Israeli protest held in 1976, and supports the steadfast people struggling for freedom.

On the occasion, Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudi issued the following statements:

Land Day marks the uprising of the Palestinian people in 1976, in the form of a general strike followed by huge demonstrations in all towns and cities and villages in Palestinian territories occupied since 1948.

The protest was against Israel's arbitrary measures, seizure of Arab territories, and its practices against the Palestinian people.

The direct cause for the 1976 event was Israel's confiscation of 21,000 dunums of Arab lands in central Galilee region of Palestine belonging to the villages of Arrabe, Saknin, Deir Hanna and Arab Al Sawad, to be used for building Jewish settlements.

Although the local Arab population had informed the authorities that their strike will be peaceful and within democratic norms, the demonstrators were confronted by Israeli attacks that caused the death of six innocent Arabs.

The Palestinian-Zionist struggle is over the land, and the Palestinian people's steadfastness, their adherence to their rights and their land were instrumental in aborting Israeli plans.

In addition the continual growth of Arab population in occupied Palestine has formed a major obstacle in the path of Israel's plans.

The Land Day events in 1976 served as one more link in a long chain of Palestinian struggle and

had no doubt shaken the Israeli colonial society very strongly.

The Land Day anniversary this year is observed against a background of continued Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, with more martyrs falling and joining their brothers and sisters who fell in defence of their land.

The statement also referred to a number of measures taken by the CAEU in support of the Palestinians.

These include facilities to be given by all Arab countries for marketing products from the occupied Palestinian land.

Fayez hails Palestinians

Also on Tuesday Lower House of Parliament Speaker Akef Al Fayez hailed the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories and praised their steadfastness and their heroic struggle against the Israeli occupation authorities, "who are practising the ugliest forms of oppression against our kinsmen in the occupied territories."

Fayez stressed the Jordanian people's support for them in these critical circumstances.

Muslim, Christian leaders support uprising

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Imposing sanctions against the United States, completely boycotting American goods, and not allowing people such as former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and other Americans to enter any Arab country, were some of the suggestions made Tuesday by some prominent Muslim and Christian figures.

"We must remember that the United States is our enemy before Israel and we must take all forms of action against it, if we are to pressure them to stop supporting Israel with everything," declared Bishop Elias Khoury, a member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) Executive Committee.

Speaking at a Muslim-Christian meeting, held at the General Islamic Congress for Bait Al Maqdis, commemorating Land Day, Bishop Khoury said that because American Secretary of State George Shultz has for the first time met with members of the Palestine National Council (PNC), (Palestinian-Americans Edward Said and Ibrahim Abu Lughud), it does not mean that the United States has changed its position towards the Palestine question.

"I am not hopeful at all with Shultz's visit and his Middle East mission. We must remember that his term in the White House is almost over and he has to get on the good side of Arabs because of his personal business with Bechtel," Bishop Khoury analysed.

Bishop Khoury was speaking at the Muslim-Christian meeting held to decide what action to take in support of the current Palestinian uprising on the occasion of the Land Day.

Member of Parliament and member of the Muslim-Christian Committee, Fouad Farraj disagreed with Bishop Khoury that writing is not important, stressing the importance of the press in the coverage of the uprising.

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A reminder to the world

TODAY marks the Land Day when all Palestinians and the entire Arab people commemorate this national Palestinian day with ever more determination and vigour. This solemn and inspiring occasion, which the Palestinian people started to observe in 1976 to signal their collective and unequivocal rejection of Israeli confiscation of their lands, has acquired added meanings throughout the years of Palestinian struggle for freedom and liberation.

Land, this occasion symbolises for the Palestinian people and the rest of the Arab World, is the truest and purest cornerstone of nationhood and for it no amount of sacrifice is too much and no effort or struggle no matter how painful are enough. For when the Palestinian's attachment and dedication to their collective lands was awakened and rekindled, their path towards liberation acquired a firmer foundation which no force can thwart and frustrate.

Seen from this vantage, Israeli policy-makers have attempted in vain to foist the so-called "functional" solution for the West Bank and Gaza in a desperate effort to separate the people from their lands and homeland. This organic link between the Palestinian people and their lands has been proven time and again to be unbreakable. In this sense and in this context, today marks yet another reminder and warning to Israeli policy-makers that the Palestinian people will never yield their lands to Israel and that any settlement which purports to bestow Israeli sovereignty over their lands will come to naught and will be fought tooth and nail come what may.

That alone explains why Israel seeks to undermine the inner meaning of this day. Panic, fear and anxiety of unprecedented scale have gripped the Israelis. How else can one interpret Israel's decision to seal off the West Bank and Gaza from the rest of the world especially from the Palestinians of Israel and the watchful eye of the international media. Clearly Israel fears the solidarity and unity that was irrevocably forged between the Palestinians in Israel with their brothers and sisters across the "green line" in the West Bank and Gaza. Such Israeli fears and nightmares illustrate the extent and dimension of this important day. The whole Israeli establishment has been mobilised for this occasion and has gone into full gear to silence the people and isolate them from the international community. But this day's everlasting message will never be silenced because the spirit that moves and animates it is well enshrined and deeply carved in the souls, hearts and minds of the Palestinian people.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

A: Ra'if Shamir rejects peace

AT a Knesset session held Monday, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir announced once again his government's rejection of any peace bids that are not compatible with the Camp David accords. In an address to Knesset members, Shamir said his government will continue to suppress the Palestinian uprising with all means available to it. With this declaration, Shamir has thus put an end to any attempts for a renewed American peace initiative in the Middle East, especially as he is known to be demanding direct negotiations and partial solutions rather than a total settlement. Those who heard Shamir's speech may have noticed the obvious arrogance and the racist nature in the man who, though in the post of a prime minister, is so determined to act and to behave and think like a leader of a terrorist gang, bent on killing and destruction. Shamir's speech was full of threats to the Arab people under Israeli rule who are carrying on the uprising against Israel's existence in the occupied Arab lands. Shamir seems to be deeply shaken by the uprising which has opened deep wounds within the Israeli society, and brought about renewed divisions within his coalition government. Shamir said in his speech that the U.S. backed his government's policies, a strange development which prompts us to ask about the real usefulness of Shultz's recent efforts in our region. There can be no benefit from any U.S. efforts in Washington to support Israel's occupation of Arab lands.

A: Dusour: Shamir's message to Shultz

JUST one week before U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's scheduled return to the Middle East area, the American peace proposals are dealt a severe blow by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. At a special meeting of the Knesset, Shamir announced his rejection of the international Middle East peace conference which forms one of the important elements in Shultz's proposals. Shamir also urged the Israeli people to unify their ranks and take a strong independent stand with regard to the new U.S. proposals. This should come as no surprise to anyone in the Arab World, specially in the light of the outcome of Shamir's latest visit to the United States and his talks with American government leaders. We believe that Shamir has now thrown the ball once again into the American court, and is waiting a response from George Shultz who is visiting the Middle East soon to try his hand again with the Arab-Israeli conflict. Shamir had earlier announced that he does not intend to introduce any amendments to his proposals, nor does Washington intend to give up its new endeavour. Therefore, the new confrontation puts America's credibility once again to the test. Perhaps this is an important move by the Reagan administration, since it could well be the last U.S. diplomatic initiative under President Reagan.

Sawt Al Shaab: Confrontation escalates

ON the eve of Land Day the Israeli authorities have escalated their anti-Arab measures and intensified their brutal actions against the Arab population for fear that the Arabs would step up their uprising on Wednesday, the Land Day anniversary. The Israelis are closing the whole of the occupied Arab territories and imposing curfews on the local population preventing them from carrying out their daily business and depriving women and children from basic requirements, in defiance of the world public opinion and international laws. Reports from the West Bank say that 50 South African experts in quelling disturbances and fighting resistance have arrived to help the Israelis in stifling the Arab resistance and subduing their will. The Israelis will no doubt continue to escalate their brutal actions against the freedom fighters trying to subdue them and break their will and love for freedom, but they will no doubt be confronted by stepped up resistance and uprising, and anti-Israeli protests. The Israelis are closing their ears to the fact that no force can end the uprising and no power can discourage the Palestinians from pursuing their aspirations.

How stones can beat guns

By Frank Collins

THE war in the occupied territories is in its fourth month. The official toll of Palestinians killed by shooting is now more than 80, and more than 100 if the deaths from beatings and tear gas exposures are added. Not a single Israeli soldier has been killed in the many encounters with protesting Palestinians. The occupation army command is rubbing its eyes in disbelief. How can the Palestinians, relying on stone age weaponry, withstand a military technology among the best that the world has to offer?

Perhaps the stand-off is not so astonishing. The Palestinians have many of the same advantages as those in the Third World had in their uprisings against European imperialism after the second world war. As the Europeans found, industrial age military technology is basically ineffective against the determined opposition of a people fighting in its own country.

The occupation command is rubbing its eyes in disbelief.

The Palestinians have additional advantages because of the nature of their resistance. This is not a guerrilla war fought by a relatively small number of commandos but it is a war being carried on by the whole population, both men and women, young and old. Against these numbers, the fully mobilised Israeli army is spread too thinly to put out the fire that has been ignited throughout the territories after 20 years of repression.

While the Palestinian losses of more than 100 dead, and thousands wounded and arrested are large, they are proportionately small when compared to the total number of Palestinian combatants — essentially the whole population. The dead are buried as heroes in mass funerals, if not prevented by the Israelis, and the wounds of the injured are bound with the open pride of the com-

munity. The medical staff in hospitals and clinics are often working around the clock, in stark contrast to the Israeli doctors across the Green Line, many of whom are on strike over matters of pay.

The morale of the Palestinians is magnificent. Men and women here, who face imminent arrest, beatings and torture, show no fear but calm, good spirits, seemingly buoyed up by the fact that, at long last, they are taking on their oppressors. In contrast, the Israeli soldiers, relying on their weaponry, are timorous and confused when confronted by masses of yelling and stone-throwing Palestinians.

The occupied territories, particularly the mountainous stretches of the West Bank, are strange to the Israeli soldiers even though their own homes are just miles away. To the villagers and camp dwellers, the areas that they are defending are as familiar as the backs of their own hands. Every wadi and rock has been the place of their childhood games and this familiarity provides a morale-building battlefield. Their comrades at the barricades are likewise neighbours whom they have known since childhood. The soldiers, on the other hand, often have to operate together after only a few months of acquaintance.

The Israeli soldiers are burdened under the weight of equipment of the modern foot soldier in East Jerusalem, where they are deployed to augment the police and border guards, they look like men from Mars with heavy padded uniforms hung with impedimenta, and nowadays with a club. The Palestinians, on the other hand, are burdened with nothing. Their stone age weaponry lies at hand for use as missiles and the building of barricades. Knowing well their surroundings, they surge forward or tactically retreat from the relatively immobile soldiers. Should the lines of defence around a village crumble, as often happens, the soldiers move in to beat or arrest those

they can grab, but there are never enough to enable them to arrest everyone, and the village survives to fight again another day.

Under existing conditions, Israeli lines of communication both with the collaborators in the villages and camps and with communication centres outside are becoming increasingly difficult. Many opportunistic collaborators are finding it advisable to switch sides. The villages and camps do not depend on electronic communications but on the ancient tried-and-true method of runners between villages who can rarely be intercepted. Thus it is the Israelis and not the villagers who are having serious difficulties of knowing what is going on in a given village or camp.

There are increasing signs of collaboration between the army and militant settlers. The settlers have for a long time taken the initiative in attacks on villages and refugee camps. Previously, the army has moved into support

The settlers have certain advantages over army personnel.

of the settlers, often hours after the initial attack; now the soldiers arrive with the settlers. The settlers have certain advantages over army personnel. Their morale is high, inflamed as it often is by hatred of all Palestinians. Also they usually know the terrain better than the soldiers. While the villagers and camp dwellers have developed a certain contempt for the soldiers, they do not fear the settlers. Most villages are now fully organised for defence against settler attacks and are constantly on the alert. But still the settlers represent a serious challenge to the uprising. The Israeli government is able to shrug off responsibility for actions of the settlers which violate international conventions on the grounds that they are unauthorised.

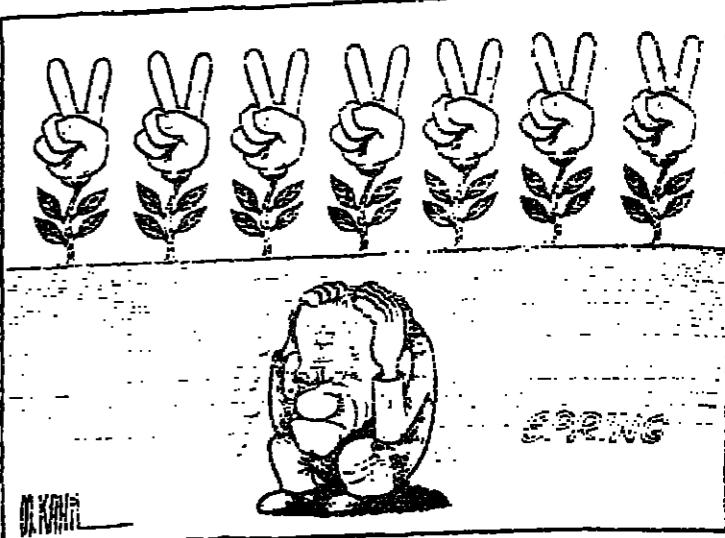
Conditions under which the uprising is being carried on are quite

different in the Gaza Strip from those in the West Bank. The Gaza Strip is an area of concentrated population and level ground. Its population lives largely in refugee camps which are easily cordoned off by the occupation troops. The food supply comes almost completely from Israel and can be blocked. This technique, including shutting off water and electricity, has been used intermittently since early January. Gaza is also visited less often by the press and television crews, so that its story is more difficult to carry to the outside world. However, in spite of these difficulties, the Gazans, who initiated the uprising, are continuing to resist the occupation with vigour and determination.

The Palestinian uprising is a disaster for Israel. Economics Minister Gad Ya'acobi announced in mid-February that attempts to put it down had cost 500 million Israeli shekels (\$320m). This is matched by an at least equal amount in business losses, and these are continuing.

The uprising has necessitated a full call-up of the army and its reserve personnel. This has led to the absence of large numbers of the Israeli labour force, including key personnel, causing widespread decreases in industrial production. In addition, an estimated 40 per cent decline in the number of Palestinian labourers commuting to Israel is a terrible blow to the Israeli economy. Israeli officials are talking about importing foreign labourers to make up the deficiency.

The Israeli economy has always been precarious and is sustained only by heavy inputs of U.S. funds which amount to roughly \$1,000 per head. The huge expenditures needed to counter the uprising will soon require additional U.S. contributions to prevent an economic collapse. How Israeli pleas for more money will be received by the American people in the face of the erosion of Israel's image remains to be seen — Middle East International, London.



OPEN FORUM

Beware of massacres

THE latest Israeli move to seal off the occupied West Bank and Gaza is ostensibly aimed at forestalling violent "Land Day" demonstrations today, but no-one can mistake the sinister motives behind isolating the occupied territories and denying free media access to what is happening there. Quite simply, it enables the occupation army to intensify its brutal campaign against the Palestinians there, without having to worry about journalists and television crews. The planned Land Day demonstrations are being used by Israel as a pretext to use its army and weapons against the Palestinians. This could prove to be a turning point in the 15-week-old Palestinian uprising but definitely not to the advantage of the occupiers who can maim and kill the people but can never squash their nationalist spirit. There is little doubt that Israel hopes to use the total blockade of the West Bank and Gaza to implement its grand design of "crushing" the uprising once and for all and thus to do away with new peace initiatives and proposals that have emerged as a result of the Palestinian revolt.

Israeli contentions that Palestinians plan to use firearms during Land Day demonstrations cannot fool anyone. If Palestinians wanted to kill Israelis, opportunities were abundant and dozens of Israeli soldiers could have been killed one by one during the past 15 weeks in various parts of the West Bank and Gaza. There is no reason now to expect such a radical change in anti-occupation tactics at a time when the entire Israeli army and police force appear to have been mobilised. The fatal shooting of an Israeli soldier in Bethlehem earlier this month could be seen only as an isolated incident. Even so, there is no concrete evidence that it was an Arab hand that pulled the trigger in Bethlehem.

But the gravest danger that the Israeli blockade of the occupied territories poses to the Arab are possible massacres of Palestinians. It is not inconceivable that the Israeli army would let loose gun-toting settlers in West Bank villages just as it did with Lebanese militiamen in Sabra and Shatila in 1982. Entire villages could cease to exist and the occupation army has the very convenient excuse of pointing to the settlers as the culprits.

Such a scenario indeed is the great danger, since, according to the Israeli thinking, massacres could trigger widespread panic among the Palestinians in the occupied territories and could spark another Palestinian exodus and leave that much less Palestinian protesters to deal with. The very fact that the same terrorists who perpetrated the 1948 Deir Yassin massacre are now in power in Israel is a definite pointer to such an eventuality.

Tahar Khairallah

A menu for the day

NOW that Israelis have declared the occupied territories a closed military region, imposed curfews on cities, towns and villages, cut telephone lines and barred the press from entering the West Bank and Gaza, the Israelis are going to have a hell today massacring Palestinian men, women and children. This will be a day to remember when the Israeli "defence" forces "defend" their right of existence in the "land of Israel" by eliminating those who threaten their "security," especially the Palestinian children, today's fighters and the fathers of tomorrow's freedom fighters.

So the Israelis will have their ball shooting at their enemies and watching Arab blood pour out into the streets of the holy land. In the meantime, the Arabs from 1948 occupied Palestine will strike on this day as an expression of solidarity with their fellow Arabs in the West Bank and Gaza.

While blood pours on the streets today, we in the Arab World, sons and daughters of the Arab Nation, will express our total support and solidarity with our brethren living under occupation. This morning we will sip our American coffee black in solidarity with the martyrs who fell during the uprising and the many more who will be murdered during the day.

In the evening we will all support them by talking about the "horrible and brutal" measures of the Israeli authorities over a glass of wine. By the end of the day we would have donated our salaries of the day for all those families who need aid in the overcrowded slinking camps in Gaza and the West Bank. We will get drunk tonight over the shed Palestinian blood and weep our heads over those whose children die today.

It's going to be a busy and tiring day for us in the Arab World paying tribute to our people who are suffering and sacrificing their lives and their children's lives trying to liberate the land to which we all belong.

Sana Atiyeh

Yamani sacked because of jealousy and dispute

By Judith Matloff
Reuter

LONDON — Ahmed Zaki Yamani lost his job as Saudi Arabian oil minister in 1986 because of petty jealousies and policy disputes with King Fahd, according to a new biography published on March 28.

The abrupt firing of the man seen as the architect of OPEC's rise in the 1970s stunned the oil world and made many experts wonder if the organisation would lose its authority.

American author Jeffrey Robinson, in "Yamani: The Inside Story," says King Fahd dismissed Yamani because he felt Saudi Arabia's highest-ranking non-royal had grown too important.

The king also opposed Yamani's policy of turning up the taps to restore OPEC's share of the world energy market, which had declined since the 1973 Arab oil embargo as a result of Western efforts to develop new sources

such as the North Sea that were outside OPEC's control.

Yamani wanted to force non-OPEC producers to cut output. But his tactic, creating a glut, also drove down prices by 60 per cent to \$9 a barrel in mid-1986 and slashed Saudi revenues.

The king wanted Yamani to press for both higher production and an oil price at \$18 barrel at an October, 1986, OPEC meeting. Yamani put up some resistance and a week later heard on television he had lost his job, Robinson says.

"His downfall, due to jealousy and his vocal stand against the king's short-term thinking, eliminated him from Arab politics the only man whose great credibility as moderate command respect in both the Middle East and the West," Robinson says.

Robinson said Yamani had a free hand in oil policy under Fahd's predecessor and elder brother, King Faisal.

King Faisal regarded Yamani like a son and trusted his knowl-

edge and negotiating skills. But Yamani was on uncertain ground after King Faisal was shot dead by a nephew in 1975 and was succeeded by King Khalid and then King Fahd, Robinson says.

Yamani has never talked publicly about his sacking and Robinson said they had agreed not to discuss it or his relations with the royal family during their meetings which took place over several months.

Sensitive ground

According to Robinson, he obtained information on the two topics from other sources. He also said that Yamani wanted to stop the book's publication because it trod sensitive ground.

The book is billed as the first done on Yamani, based on several meetings with him and 150 interviews with other people. Robinson's other works include best-seller "The Risk Takers," a series of portraits of money and power, and its sequel "The Minus Millionaires."

Yamani emerges from the book as a man of intelligence and charm, deeply devoted to his family and his Muslim faith, who rose from a Mecca boyhood to become a jet setting world figure and custodian of one-third of the non-Communist world's oil.

When King Faisal made him oil minister in 1962, he was 32, a US-educated lawyer. Over the next 11 years, as his confidence and skills grew, Yamani masterminded negotiations through which Saudi Arabia took control of its oil resources from the U.S. multinationals and helped to build the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

When the 1973 Arab-Israeli war broke out, and King Fahd opted for an Arab oil embargo against Israel's Western backers, Yamani organised it.

Later, however, Yamani seemed an OPEC "moderate" trying to break the rush to yet higher prices in 1979 at the time of the revolution in Iran.

Robinson said Yamani is still shaken by King Faisal's death, which he witnessed, and by a 1975 incident when he and other OPEC ministers were abducted by the international guerrilla, Carlos or "the jackal."

Yamani still retains well-armed bodyguards.

The crisis is coming

He also told Robinson that he still spends half his life travelling, giving lectures and attending to his publishing company, charitable trusts and real estate holdings worldwide.

His thoughts are still very much on oil and he says the next energy crisis is less than 10 years away. "There will be a shortage," he is quoted as saying. "There's no doubt about that. How serious a shortage and the magnitude of it depends on the next three years. It may already be too late for the West because the West is always happy for the short-term benefits

of low-priced oil."

Oil is also becoming increasingly important to the Soviet Union, he maintained, saying Moscow's big defence budget and fears of importing oil were major factors behind glasnost and arms reductions deals.

Yamani predicted that by the early 1990s the world oil market and OPEC will be dominated by key Gulf producers.

"OPEC will be changed by then. Some members will disappear as exporters of oil. The Arab oil producers will find themselves in a very powerful position," he said. "Were Iran to crush Iraq, that inner cartel might itself be dominated by Iran."

Yamani expressed concern about a decline in the U.S. oil industry, which would be forced to rely more on Gulf oil. "Some day, maybe as soon as the 1990s, Americans will look back and curse the officials who allowed this to happen."

MIDEAST NEWS BRIEFS

Shultz meets with Tunisian counterpart

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State George Shultz met Monday with Tunisian Foreign Minister Mahmoud Messiri to discuss relations between the two countries. State Department spokesman Charles Redman said Messiri's two days of meetings with U.S. officials "reflect the close and friendly nature" of his country's ties with the United States. Messiri is also to meet with Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci, members of Congress and Alan Woods, head of the Agency for International Development, which handles U.S. foreign aid. In the 1988 fiscal year, Tunisia will receive \$38 million in aid, about \$28 million of which is military assistance. This compares with almost \$50 million it got from the United States last year. Shultz and Messiri are initiating an agreement governing the consular ties between the two countries. The visit is also designed to acquaint the United States with the policies of the government that took over power last year from ailing former President Habib Bourguiba.

Pravda attacks West over Vanunu

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda criticised the West Tuesday for failing to denounce the conviction of former nuclear technician Mordechai Vanunu for giving away Israeli atomic secrets. Western human rights campaigners had deemed that Vanunu, sentenced by an Israeli court Sunday to 18 years' prison for revealing nuclear secrets to a British newspaper, was unworthy of attention, it said. "Alas, they are silent in Washington, London and the capitals of other NATO countries. The Vanunu case does not agitate Western human rights fighters," Pravda said. "And at issue is truly to an honest man, reprisals for his political convictions. For striving to save the world from nuclear catastrophe," it said. "It is sad but true — the philanthropy of Western human rights campaigners is selective." Pravda said Vanunu had been subjected to strong drugs and moral torture and had been tried in an improper court.

Papandreou sends peace message

ISTANBUL (AP) — Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou has said in a message to the Turkish people that Greece was ready to make every effort for peace with Turkey. "It is a fact that there are problems between our countries which occasionally reach serious dimensions, can create crises and bring our countries to the brink of war," Papandreou said in the message brought here by Greek composer Mikis Theodorakis and read Monday at a news conference of the Greek-Turkish Friendship Committee. "Yet, both nations want to live in peace and this is possible. If only we really want peace and seek solutions to existing problems within the framework of international law," the message said. Greece and Turkey came to the brink of war a year ago over oil-exploration rights in the Aegean Sea. They also have longstanding differences over military control of the Aegean and the divided island of Cyprus. But relations have been steadily improving since Papandreou and Turkish Premier Turgut Ozal met for the first time in Davos, Switzerland, at the end of January.

Qadhafi urges all Libyans to return

BEIRUT (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has said all Libyans would be allowed to return to their country and those who did not would be considered spies, the official Libyan news agency JANA said. "All Libyans abroad will be allowed to return to Libya without preconditions. Those who do not return will be seen as spies working for the American and Zionist secret services," JANA, monitored in Beirut, quoted Qadhafi as saying in a speech. "Every Libyan can now enter and leave the country 1,000 times and his honour, dignity, money and future will be guaranteed," he said. JANA said Qadhafi's decision was part of his "freedom campaign" which included the release of 400 Libyan and 130 foreign prisoners from jails last month. The Libyan leader was speaking on the anniversary of the withdrawal of British forces from Libya in 1970.

Intrigue, suspicion stalk streets of Turkish city

By John Owen-Davies

DIYARBAKIR, Turkey — Intrigue and suspicion stalk the narrow alleys and bustling streets of this ancient walled city perched above the Tigris River in a lonely plain.

Diyarbakir, which has seen conquerors come and go over the centuries, is unofficial capital of Turkey's Kurdish-speaking area and on a heroin smuggling route from Iran to Western Europe.

A Kurdish speaker furiously scribbles a few words on scrap paper in answer to a question and shreds it after twisting his warty beads into mock hangman's noose.

Outside the walls, security men with automatic weapons cordon off a section of road as regional Governor Hayri Kozakcioglu arrives at his office in a fast-moving motorcade.

Kozakcioglu is a prime target for Marxist Kurdish rebels who have been waging a bitter struggle for autonomy for Turkey's estimated eight million Kurds, not recognised by the government as an ethnic minority.

Diyarbakir, first inhabited about 3,500 years ago, is nerve-centre of a government drive near the Iranian, Iraqi and Syrian frontiers to crush the rebels.

More than 900 people, including women and children in remote settlements, have been killed in four years of violence launched by the underground Kurdish Workers Party (PKK).

Diyarbakir, with a population of 310,000 and about 700 kilometres from Ankara, has been largely unaffected by direct violence, mainly because of rigid security in an area crisscrossed with army and para-military gendarmerie troops.

Senior security sources said the number of murders in the city was above the national average — 21 last year — largely because of family blood feuds and for economic reasons in an underdeveloped area.

The drug connection

"The city is an important centre for drug trafficking," one source said. "But its importance has diminished in recent years because of successful police work."

A total of 81 kilos of heroin were confiscated by police in the first

two months of this year, compared with 19 kilos in the whole of 1987, according to official figures. Diyarbakir has a frontier-style atmosphere, heightening the aura of intrigue.

Uniformed security force troops, suited officials and Kurdish men in traditional baggy trousers jostle on crowded streets with Iraqi and Syrian visitors, Iranians fleeing their country and the occasional European.

In nearby alleys between mud and brick homes, Kurdish children play noisily watched by mothers in their mainly blue, white and pink clothes. They tend to back away at the sight of an unfamiliar face.

Near the military-civilian airport, where U.S.-made F-104 Starfighter jets stand outside blast-proof hangers, men of the police force's special commando unit, akin to Britain's Special Air Service (SAS), go through their tough training routine.

At night, Arab music flows from tawdry coffee houses where men gather in huddles, while armed escorts wait for their officers to emerge from a plush military club.

Kurdish is heard spoken on occasions, maybe between hotel chambermaids and diners in a corner of a restaurant. But they normally revert to Turkish when strangers or others are nearby.

The government does not recognise the language, but there are no penalties for speaking it. Ankara recently allowed prisoners in the city's military prison to speak freely with families after a mass hunger strike to demand "freedom of Kurdish."

Diyarbakir is the main city of eight provinces clamped under emergency law and overseen by Kozakcioglu, a civilian and former security chief in Istanbul, Turkey's largest city.

Some residents say Kozakcioglu, known as "Super Vali (governor)," has made life easier since his post was created in mid-1987 after a series of bloody PKK attacks on settlements.

"I asked the police something the other day and received a polite, helpful response. This would never have happened a year ago," said a taxi driver named Vedat.

Known in classical times as Amida, Diyarbakir was annexed to the Roman empire in 297 A.D. Emperor Constantine fortified it 50 years later along lines of the present well-preserved walls.

The city became part of the then Ottoman empire in 1515 after changing hands several times.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Palestinians defy Israeli siege; 11 injured in clashes

(Continued from page 1)

"You have 650,000 people under house arrest," he said, reporting a heavy army presence in deserted streets, forcing U.N. workers to sleep in the agency's medical clinics.

The army conducted mass detentions of Palestinians as soon as the restrictions went into effect, arresting 600 overnight, Israel Radio said.

The PPS said 120 were jailed under special powers permitting six months detention without trial. The army confirmed it was making mass arrests, but declined to give figures.

The measures were taken ostensibly to prevent large-scale protests Wednesday, a day marking the 12th anniversary of Land Day, when Israeli soldiers killed six Arabs protesting land confiscation. Thousands of police were mobilised Tuesday evening in Arab towns.

At roadblocks in the West Bank, troops turned away a U.N. official and Save the Children director Chris George, despite an army announcement that the closure would not affect international relief workers.

Both organisations said they would protest.

"It's a full time job now to raise our complaints with the Israeli authorities," U.N. spokesman Bill Lee said.

He said U.N. officials had already protested to Israel about

the cutting of telephone lines to Gaza and the confiscation of identity cards of two of the agency's Arab field workers there.

George said the restrictions seriously disrupted his agency's operations, with half the Jerusalem staff of 10 denied entry into the city.

In Ramallah, an AP reporter saw soldiers forcing merchants, sometimes at gunpoint, to close their shops, and confiscating the identity cards of some.

When the soldiers left, some Palestinians furiously bought bread at bakeries and then rushed back into their homes.

Israeli troops also forcibly shut down major West Bank markets in Jenicho, Nablus, Jenin and Ramallah, as well as in Gaza City, said Mona Rishmawi, a lawyer for Law in the Service of Man, a human rights group founded by Palestinian lawyers.

Rishmawi said the measures were aimed at crushing resistance among the Arab middle classes.

"The Israelis have always had a false assumption. ... they believed if they could just tire out the middle class, they could put down the revolt," she said.

In Nablus, Said Kenaan, a 48-year-old businessman, said the army banned food trucks from entering the city.

"When stores tried to open, troops threw food on the ground and destroyed it. I saw it myself," he said.

Shultz trip aimed at stressing 'equity and balance' in plan

(Continued from page 1)

synonymous," adding that "our restrictions on dealing with the PLO remain as always. There's been no change in that." He stressed that, "we're not trying to fine-tune words and to find new words to get at this. This was not a meeting with the PLO. What I'm trying to tell you is that nothing has changed."

Asked why Shultz had decided to return to the Middle East even though none of the region's leaders has endorsed the U.S. peace

initiative, Redman explained that "from the start, we have emphasised that this is very much a process. It's one in which we are deeply engaged, continue to be intensively engaged, as the kind of contacts that we're talking about continue to demonstrate."

"The secretary has made it clear on many occasions that he's prepared to go to the Middle East whenever his presence can help. At a time when the U.S. proposal is under serious and active consideration by the parties, the secretary will be emphasising that as to how to get at this problem."

Genscher, Velayati meet in Athens

ATHENS (R) — West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher called for an end to the Iran-Iraq war and a dialogue between the two sides during a meeting with Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati in Athens Tuesday.

Genscher expressed the concern felt by Bonn and the European Community over the escalation of hostilities and the "war of the cities," a German spokesman said after the hour-long breakfast meeting. Both ministers were on official visits to Greece.

Genscher also told Velayati he was concerned about the use of chemical weapons in the war and offered medical assistance in Germany to its victims, the spokesman said.

Genscher, who returned to Bonn shortly after the meeting, accepted an invitation to visit Tehran later in the year, he said.

The Iranian News Agency (IRNA) reported Tuesday the 16-year-old son of a senior Iranian leader was in hospital suffering the effects of an alleged Iraqi chemical weapons attack.

IRNA, received in Cyprus, identified the youth as Yaser Hashemi Rafsanjani, son of Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, speaker of parliament and Tehran's chief spokesman on the Gulf war.

The agency said Yaser Rafsanjani was a student volunteer in operations in Iraq's northern Sulaymaniyah province when he came under Iraqi "chemical warfare attack" last Friday.

It said Amir Mohammadi Khomeini, son of Iran's prosecutor general, was also receiving treatment for injuries caused by chemical weapons.

Iran claims Iraq killed 5,000 Iraqi Kurds when it dumped chemical weapons onto Halabja town and nearby villages after local residents "welcomed" Iranian invaders.

Two United Nations specialists are in Iran to investigate the charges.

Iran said Monday it would go ahead with parliamentary elections April 8 despite daily Iraqi missile and air attacks on its

homeland and the Islamic sanc-

Fahd dismisses Israeli threats, vows to pursue defence plans

RIYADH (Agencies) — King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz said Monday Saudi Arabia would pursue plans to build up its defences, dismissing veiled Israeli threats to the kingdom after it purchased intermediate-range missiles.

The monarch spoke at a regular meeting of his cabinet.

Information Minister Ali Al Shaer quoted Fahd as telling the cabinet: "Saudi Arabia will go ahead with its ratified defence programmes and will pursue its Islamic mission and Arab

missiles," a reference to Mecca and Medina.

Support for Saudi Arabia after the Israeli threats has included a message from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Fahd to visit Cairo'

Quoting diplomatic sources in Cairo, the state-run newspaper Al Ittihad in Abu Dhabi reported Monday that Fahd would visit Egypt April 4 to discuss the Israeli statements with Mubarak.

There was no official confirmation from Cairo or Riyadh.

The Egyptian stand on the Israeli threats would give new horizons to the Egyptian-Saudi coordination and cooperation exceeding theoretical stands." Al Ittihad quoted the sources, as saying.

Saudi Deputy Defence Minister Prince Abdul Rahman Ibn Abdul Aziz has described the Israeli statements a "flagrant interference in affairs concerning the kingdom's security and sovereignty."

Riyadh Radio quoted the defence official as telling a graduation ceremony Sunday at the Air Defence Academy in Jeddah that Arab reactions "were very demonstrative and affirmed Arab solidarity in securing comprehensive Arab security against any foreign threat."

Several Arab states, including Jordan and Syria, have said any Israeli raid on Saudi Arabia would be considered an attack on them.

U.S. kept in dark

The Washington Post reported Tuesday that Saudi Arabia used ruses to keep U.S. intelligence agencies in the dark for more than two years about its acquisition of the missiles.

Walsh opts for compromise with Israel over Iran probe

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Special prosecutor Lawrence Walsh and the Israeli government have reached an agreement on Israeli cooperation in the criminal investigation into the Iran-contra scandal.

"It is far short of what we would have liked, but it is better than nothing. It is assistance that will be useful," a source close to Walsh said after both sides announced the recently-signed agreement Monday.

Sources close to Walsh's investigation told Reuters the agreement, approved by the Israeli cabinet, resolved Israeli concerns that its "national security" secrets and its "rights as a sovereign state" might be undermined if it cooperated.

The accord capped more than a year of tough negotiations. Israel's cooperation was critical to Walsh's investigation because of the deep involvement by Israeli officials in the secret U.S. arms sales to Iran.

Israel said it made available to Walsh relevant documents, including financial and historical chronologies given to the congressional Iran-contra committees last summer, the Israeli official said.

Sources close to Walsh said the material turned over by Israel may be used as evidence in court and that key Israeli officials linked to the affair may provide written answers to questions from Walsh's investigators.

In return, Walsh apparently agreed to revoke the subpoenas he issued to four Israelis who arranged the 1985 and 1986 shipment of U.S.-made anti-tank and anti-aircraft missiles to Iran, an Israeli official and a U.S. lawyer indicated.

"He will get what he wants without us having to give up what we

wanted," said the official, speaking to the AP on condition of anonymity.

Melvin Rische, a lawyer representing the Israeli government, said: "We have reached terms of how we would proceed, making litigation unnecessary," indicating that Walsh had agreed to withdraw a grand jury subpoena.

Israel's government wanted the summons dropped, contending that all four Israelis were acting under its orders and thus were immune from prosecution and questioning by U.S. officials.

The agreement with Walsh is "on a government-to-government" basis, according to Israeli embassy spokesman Yossi Gal, which means any questions for the four must be channelled through official Israeli representatives.

Walsh and the Israeli embassy issued brief statements announcing the cooperation agreement, but said the contents would remain classified.

The documents handed over to Walsh include detailed financial and historical chronologies prepared by Israel for the congressional Iran-contra committees last summer, the Israeli official said.

When Israel gave the chronologies to Congress, it stipulated that Walsh be denied access to the documents because of his refusal to grant immunity to the four Israeli players.

Along with the documents, Walsh has also been given written answers to the questions posed last year by the congressional investigators in regard to the chronologies, the official said.

The documents are expected to help Walsh answer some of his questions about Israel's Swiss bank account, which handled the funds for the shipments to Iran.

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Papandreu stresses 'pragmatic' policies

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Premier Andreas Papandreu Monday told a conference on investing in Greece that his Socialist government now hopes to speed up economic development by following "pragmatic" policies.

Papandreu also stressed that Greece was firmly committed to the European Community, and to improving relations with NATO ally Turkey after years of rivalry for control of the Aegean Sea region.

"Such realistic actions express the practical — pragmatic if you like — spirit that has started to rule our political life," the premier said in an after-dinner speech to delegates.

More than two hundred business-

men, including several Turkish industrialists, were attending the two-day conference organised by the Hellenic-American Chamber of Commerce and the International Herald Tribune.

Greece has attracted minimal foreign investment during seven years of rule by Papandreu's Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok).

Businessmen in the past have said they were scared off by sudden state takeovers of several

private Greek firms and by fiscal pressures on offshore companies operating out of Athens.

Papandreu said his government is now actively seeking private investment, although the state would continue to play a leading role in development projects.

The government is currently examining bids for a \$7 billion public works programme that includes an extension to the Athens subway, river diversion and bridge projects and a new airport for the capital.

Papandreu said recent figures showed "we are on the eve of a private investment boom."

Greece's 1985-87 economic stabilisation programme trimmed annual inflation from 25 to 16 per

cent, reduced the current account deficit from \$3.3 to \$1.3 billion and brought net borrowing down to zero.

Economic growth this year is forecast at 2.5 per cent, while inflation could come down to 12 per cent by December 1988, its lowest level in more than a decade.

Foreign investor interest is also encouraged by banking and stock exchange reforms aimed at developing a modern money market in Greece after years of tight restrictions.

"One of the great opportunities for the 1990s is for Greece to become a financial centre for the Balkans, the Middle East and North Africa," Papandreu said.

Reagan lashes out at protectionism again

RICHMOND, Virginia (R) — President Reagan, in a campaign-style attack on the Democrats, warned Monday that trade policies advocated by his opponents could throw many Americans out of work.

"They talk about saving jobs, but they want provisions that have the potential to destroy thousands if not millions of American jobs," he said.

During a visit to a metals factory benefiting from an export boom, Reagan also repeated his oft-stated threat to veto a pending trade bill if it included sections that he viewed as protectionist.

He also predicted that advocates of restrictive trade practices would fail to capitalise on the issue politically in the U.S. elections next fall.

"Protectionism isn't just bad economics — it's bad politics. I think the American people have decided that one Great Depression is enough, and they aren't going to give the trade demagogues a second chance," Reagan said, arguing that post World War I wave of protectionism precipitated the worst economic downturn in modern history.

While Reagan did not single out the Democratic Party by name, White House official confirmed that the political opposition was in fact the target of his speech.

"They've got a trade bill before Congress that could squelch protectionism, destroy American competitiveness, and make all their doomsday myths a reality," he charged.

The omnibus trade bill is being hammered into final shape by a congressional conference committee, which hopes to complete work before Congress begins a 10-day Easter vacation Friday.

"You may have been reading lately that the trade bill is making good progress — that a lot of protectionist provisions have been jettisoned," Reagan said.

"There is some truth to that. But there's a long way to go before the legislation does more harm than good to the U.S. economy," he added.

Reagan said the most objectionable provision of the bill would require mandatory retaliatory measures against foreign nations failing to open their markets to U.S. goods.

He was apparently referring to the so-called "Gephardt amendment," named after Richard Gephardt, a Missouri Democrat who highlighted trade in his unsuccessful campaign to win his party's presidential nomination.

Shortly before Reagan spoke, Gephardt told a Washington news conference he was dropping out of the presidential race after a series of poor primary showings.

"Now I'll veto (the trade bill) if I must," Reagan said. "Only wholesale elimination of the objectionable provisions will produce a bill I can sign."

Congressional trade negotiators were expected to drop the Gephardt amendment from the final version of the bill.

East Bloc, West agree to fight world poverty

NEW DELHI (R) — The Soviet Union told a four-day meeting on poverty, development and survival of the East Bloc would join with the West to fight Third World poverty.

Poverty brought East and the West together in rare detente at an international conference that ended here Monday though the developing world accused the West of paternalism.

"There seems to be a blurring of economic ideologies," said Maurice Williams, secretary-general of the Society for International Development (SID). About 1,500 delegates from 65 countries attended the conference organised by SID, a non-governmental organisation funded by several U.N. groups.

The conference was the first attended by the Soviet Union and Moscow took the chance to announce stepped up aid to the Third World, including South East Asian nations. Delegation leader Vladimir Khoros said increased aid would come from lower military spending under his country's new disarmament policy.

Disarmament dominated the final day.

Inga Thorsson of Sweden made an impassioned plea for lower spending, saying that unless milit-

ary development slowed "there will be no development, no human life worth living."

The conference also threw up controversies over women's rights and measuring poverty with economic indicators.

Prince Claus of The Netherlands stressed economic growth, saying production and exports must be increased to generate resources needed for an acceptable social policy.

Enrique Iglesias of Uruguay said economic growth and self-reliance was still seen as a yardstick.

"It is a tricky issue. We in Latin America recognise our own responsibilities on the debt situation, but it should not mean that because our per capita income is higher than Africa's, we do not have areas of comparable poverty," he noted.

The new SID president said economic growth was just one criterion. Distribution of wealth was equally important in measuring the standard of living.

Several African and Asian delegations voiced a more extreme view.

Zimbabwe's Sibongile Sibanda saw little change in the attitude of rich nations.

"We heard the same old rhetoric at this conference," she

said. "The paternalistic attitude of the developed world in trying to run our lives just because they give us aid. We say, leave us alone. We are trying to be self-sufficient."

She said donors tried to set controls on projects, though

there was a limit to the ills that could be blamed on them. "It is time we took a serious look at ourselves and asked whether our organisational structures, programmes and priorities reflect the collective will and endeavour of our people."

IBM leads Forbes list

NEW YORK (AP) — International Business Machines Corp. (IBM) leads Forbes magazine's list of the nation's most valuable companies for a fourth consecutive year, the magazine said Monday.

IBM's stock market value at the end of 1987 was \$69 billion, a decline of 5.2 per cent from 1986. That was still enough to surpass Exxon Corp., whose stock market value rose 4.5 per cent to \$52.6 billion.

IBM, the world's largest computer company, has led the Forbes list since 1984, when American Telephone and Telegraph Co. fell from first place because of its breakup into several companies.

Merck and Co. Inc., the New Jersey-based pharmaceutical company, climbed to sixth from ninth. Ford Motor Co. ascended to ninth from 15th, while General Motors Corp. fell to eighth from fifth.

Stock market value is determined by multiplying the price of a company's stock by the number of its shares.

The top companies in Forbes' market value list, which will appear in the "Forbes 500s" issue of April 25, are:

1. International Business

Machines Corp., \$69 billion, down 5.2 per cent.

2. Exxon Corp., \$52.6 billion, up 4.5 per cent.

3. General Electric Co., \$39.8 billion, up 1.6 per cent.

4. American Telephone and Telegraph Co., \$29 billion, up 8.2 per cent.

5. Du Pont Co., \$20.9 billion, up 3.5 per cent.

6. Merck and Co. Inc., \$20.8 billion, up 23.2 per cent.

7. Philip Morris Cos. Inc., \$20.2 billion, up 18.2 per cent.

8. General Motors Corp., \$19.1 billion, down 9.0 per cent.

9. Ford Motor Co., \$18.6 billion, up 26.6 per cent.

10. Amoco Corp., \$17.8 billion, up 6.5 per cent.

11. Philip Morris Cos. Inc., \$17.8 billion, up 6.5 per cent.

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Police nab soccer thugs

WOLVERHAMPTON, England (AP) — Police arrested 60 people Tuesday in what was described as the biggest single sweep against soccer thugs in England.

The pre-dawn raids, involving some 250 officers and backed by information provided by a British government crime computer, were aimed at gangs of fans of the Wolverhampton Wanderers, a fourth-division club.

Police condemned the action operation growth, for get rid of Wolverhampton's troublesome hooligans. It was seen as part of nationwide efforts to clean up the image of English soccer before this summer's European Championships in West Germany.

Since the club tumbled from the heights of English soccer into the lowest reaches in recent seasons, the Wolverhampton fans have been linked to some of the worst violence in and around stadiums.

Wolverhampton police chief superintendent David Ibbs said the thugs had taken advantage of visiting poorer grounds in the Fourth Division that sometimes cannot segregate fans.

There had been "dreadful scenes tantamount to riots" at several Wolverhampton away games, with major problems at Torquay, Crewe, Bolton, Cardiff and Scarborough, he said.

The suspects were brought before judges on charges of criminal damage, conspiracy to cause riots and assault. They were released on bail.

Ibbs said 15 police officers had worked fulltime on the investigation since the beginning of December. This included undercover work "penetrating and infiltrating" the gangs, he said.

For the first time in an inquiry against organised football violence, police also used the home office's computer to help build up information on the gangs and their ringleaders.

It produced the largest number of arrests in the series of operations mounted by police forces throughout England against organised soccer violence, police said.

By late in the day, 60 men between 17 and 38 years old had been arrested. Authorities originally said 65 arrests had been made with more suspects being sought, but they later reduced the figure.

Documents found during the raids on homes in a half-dozen cities and towns in the West Midlands indicated that some of those arrested were members of three violent gangs.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦KJ10652 ♦93 ♦72
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 NT Dbl ?
What do you bid now?
A.—While you have a self-sufficient seven-card suit, your weak doubleton in the other three suits represent the worst distribution you could hold. With a singleton somewhere, we would have suggested a leap to four hearts. Under the circumstances, though, we feel that three hearts is sufficient.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♦KJ762 ♦954 ♦872
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 NT Pass 3 ♦ Pass
What do you respond?

A.—Despite the lack of a ruffing value, your prime controls make your hand eminently suitable for a spade contract. We feel that all those aces make your hand a maximum, and we would tell partner of this by bidding four clubs to show a concentration of strength in that suit and a willingness to search for spades if partner so desires.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♦J652 ♦83 ♦KJ1052 ♦63
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 NT Dbl Pass ?
What do you bid now?

A.—When partner makes a takeout double of one major, he guarantees support for the other. Therefore, there is no point in introducing your diamond suit into the auction, even though it is far better than your spades. One spade is the only bid that should enter your mind.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Egypt sacks British soccer coach

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's football federation said Tuesday it had sacked British coach Mike Smith after the national side's poor showing in the African Nations Cup. A federation spokesman said another foreign trainer would be hired to replace Smith, whose long-ball tactics were criticised by Egyptian soccer commentators. Egypt, defending champions in the African Cup, were eliminated in the early rounds of the finals in Morocco last week. They won only three points from three matches, beating underdogs Kenya 3-0, losing 1-0 to Cameroon and drawing 0-0 with Nigeria. Smith, a former trainer for the Welsh national team, had coached Egypt since 1986. He was not immediately available for comment on his dismissal.

Italy calls in under-21s to face Yugoslavia

MILAN (R) — Italian soccer manager Azzeglio Vicini has called up four members of his under-21 team for the European Championship warm-up against Yugoslavia Thursday. The 18-man squad includes midfielder Nicola Berti, summoned for the first time, defender Paolo Maldini, striker Ruggiero Rizzitelli, and midfielder Massimo Crippa. All four played last Wednesday in Italy's 2-2 quarter-final second-leg under-21 European Championship match against France, who won 4-3 on aggregate. Aged 19 to 22, they represent the fresh talent Vicini is grooming with one eye on June's championships in West Germany, when Italy start among the favourites, and the other on the 1990 World Cup finals on home soil. Alessandro Altobelli and Salvatore Bagi, veterans from the last World Cup, were again left out of the squad, unchanged except for Berti and midfielder Francesco Romano from the 18 on duty for last month's friendly against the Soviet Union.

West Germany to lose Thon

WEST BERLIN (R) — Promising young West German midfielder Olaf Thon said Tuesday he expected to sign for an Italian club within the next 10 days. Thon, training with the West German team for a four-nation tournament starting Thursday, is the third midfielder in the home squad to announce within 24 hours that he would almost certainly be moving abroad next season. On Monday Andreas Brehme said he had a concrete offer from a foreign club, though he would not name the team or country. His Bayern Munich team-mate Lothar Matthaeus also confirmed he would shortly be signing for Internazionale Milan of Italy. Thon, 21, a diminutive but richly gifted youngster, plays for his home town club of Schalke in Gelsenkirchen. Schalke is asking 6.5 million marks (\$3.9 million) for him.

British officials oppose S. Africa tour

TWICKENHAM, England (AP) — England's top rugby official said Tuesday he was against an All-Star tour of South Africa this summer, which has brought threats of an Olympic boycott. Dudley Wood, secretary of the Rugby Football Union, said he and other committee members were opposed to formal tours of the racially segregated nation, which is barred from most international sports events. "The committee felt the climate of public opinion was wrong for such a tour," Wood said. The panel earlier had rejected calls for tours of South Africa by teams representing either the four "home countries" — England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland — or rugby's five nations — those four, plus France. "Although it was not discussed, this rest of the world tour falls into the same category," Wood said.

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 1988

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carol Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You would be wise to pay particular attention to the fine details of any projects you may be involved in today, as potential difficulties will abound. Try to improve your efficiency at your workplace.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Don't try to force your views on anyone; this is especially true with people in positions of power. Don't let yourself be controlled.

Taurus (Apr. 20 to May 20) Don't neglect your daily duties or other responsibilities in order to get involved in some recreation which is really not worthwhile.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You should concentrate on a personal matter, and not let a small business affair take up your time. Be loyal to your friends.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) If a disagreement develops between a superior and a business partner, don't be afraid to stand behind your own opinions.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Although you have much work to do, it may be a good idea to take some time to find the data you need to get through it more quickly.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be very cautious where finances are concerned. Avoid expensive entertainments, for starters, and don't get involved in any risky ventures.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) If you must meet with a person who tends to act rather hastily, don't meet in your home. An outside meeting would prevent trouble.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Ignore the complaints of a discontented co-worker, and carry through with your plans just as you have arranged them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Forget unimportant practical affairs for a while, and concentrate on improving a talent you possess that can help you to be more successful.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) This is not a good time to just sit around and vegetate, as you could miss some great opportunities.

Visit some good friends tonight.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) If you get involved in an argument between a good friend and a financial expert, you will more than likely end up being the loser.

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TENNIS

Cueto wins 1st round of Eckerd Open

Wilander pulls back from Buick WCT finals

Meanwhile, Mats Wilander, citing an injury he suffered in the fourth set of his Lipton International Players Championship victory, has withdrawn from the \$680,000 Buick WCT finals, officials said Monday.

The top-seeded Wilander sent word to WCT officials that he had suffered a sprained ankle and a pulled groin ligament during his 6-4, 6-6, 6-4, 6-4 victory over Jimmy Connors Sunday.

Dr. Richard Levett of Miami confirmed the diagnosis. Wilander will be replaced by first alternate Martin Jaite of Argentina, who was going to earn \$10,000 just for showing up when he was notified he will replace Wilander.

Quarterfinal play begins in the 18th annual tournament Tuesday night. Final play for the \$200,000 first prize will be held Saturday at Reunion arena.

The WCT finals also had hard luck with its top seed last year — Ivan Lendl withdrew to have knee surgery and Boris Becker left on the eve of the tournament, complaining of a stomach virus.

The tournament will move to a late February date next year so it can be more a part of the indoor season.

This year, fourth-ranked Becker and third-ranked Stefan Edberg are the favourites to meet Saturday. Becker has already received a \$10,000 gold replica of a tennis ball for winning the most events on the Nabisco tour each year. He won seven tour events.

Becker spent most of December and January rehabilitating a knee injury.

"It's been hard because I've never had an injury that bad before," he said. "Winning Indian Wells in February was a relief because it proved that our training programme was right."

"The WCT finals is a chance to prove that I'm still one of the best in the world," he added. "You only get better by playing the best, and that's why I'm in Dallas."

Others entered in the tournament included Pat Cash, Tim Mayotte, Andres Gomez, Brad Gilbert and Yannick Noah.

Quarterfinal play is in best-of-five sets Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. Semifinal matches are Thursday and Friday evenings.

MIAMI (R) — Top 20 moneywinners on the women's tennis circuit, as released by the Women's International Tennis Association (WITA) Monday:

1. Mats Wilander (Sweden)	221,915	dollars
2. Boris Becker (West Germany)	185,998	"
3. Tim Mayotte (U.S.)	135,067	"
4. Yannick Noah (France)	130,669	"
5. Milosav Mecir (Czechoslovakia)	125,513	"
6. John Fitzgerald (Australia)	122,049	"
7. Andrei Chesnokov (Soviet Union)	115,398	"
8. Stefan Edberg (Sweden)	106,680	"
9. Jimmy Connors (U.S.)	104,090	"
10. Emilio Sanchez (Spain)	91,608	"
11. Andre Agassi (U.S.)	90,212	"
12. Pat Cash (Australia)	88,104	"
13. Amos Mansdorf (Israel)	63,137	"
14. Jonas Svensson (Sweden)	60,095	"
15. Ramesh Krishnan (India)	56,655	"
16. Mikael Pernfors (Sweden)	55,553	"
17. Michiel Schapers (Netherlands)	54,916	"
18. Yaya Dumba (Senegal)	53,710	"
19. Anders Jarryd (Sweden)	48,638	"
20. Guy Forget (France)	47,747	"

An All-Star baseball team costs \$18.4m

NEW YORK (AP) — The most expensive lineup in baseball would cost an owner \$18,469,222 this year but exclude Roger Clemens, Don Mattingly, Wade Boggs, George Bell and Andre Dawson.

The best team money can buy, using last season's Associated Press All-Stars, would cost an owner \$6.3 million less and include Clemens, Mattingly, Boggs, Bell and Dawson.

Ozzie Smith, the St. Louis Cardinals' shortstop, will have the highest salary in baseball this season at \$2.34 million, according to a review of major League salaries conducted by the Associated Press.

Boston outfielder Jim Rice is second at \$2,229,822. Catcher Gary Carter of the New York Mets is third at \$2,160,714, and Baltimore first baseman Eddie Murray, fourth, at \$2,160,035.

Philadelphia third baseman Mike Schmidt is fifth at \$2.15 million and Chicago Cubs pitcher Rick Sutcliffe, sixth, at \$2.07 million.

Completing the most expensive team in baseball are outfielders Dale Murphy of Atlanta at \$2 million, Dave Winfield of the New York Yankees at \$1,958,651 and second baseman Paul Molitor of Milwaukee at \$1.4 million.

Two of the nine players with \$2-million salaries this season are excluded because of higher-paid players at their positions — Fernando Valenzuela of the Los Angeles Dodgers (\$2.05 million)

and Mattingly (\$2 million), who signed a \$6.7-million, three-year contract with the Yankees this winter, the most lucrative deal of the offseason.

Salaries were obtained from several player and management sources. They include pro-rated shares of signing bonuses and benefits but discount parts of salaries that are deferred without interest. Many of the players have incentive-bonus clauses that could increase their incomes.

None of the highest-paid players made the 1987 AP All-Star team. Clemens, the two-time American League Cy Young Award winner who will make \$1.35 million, was the pitcher with the most votes.

Benito Santiago, the catcher, has the lowest salary of the AP All-Stars at \$167,500. He also is the only AP All-Star not eligible for salary arbitration. Santiago was National League Rookie of the year in 1987.

Mattingly (\$2 million) was the AP first baseman. Juan Samuel (\$1.06 million) was at second, Boggs (\$1.65 million) was at third and Alan Trammell (\$1 million) was at shortstop.

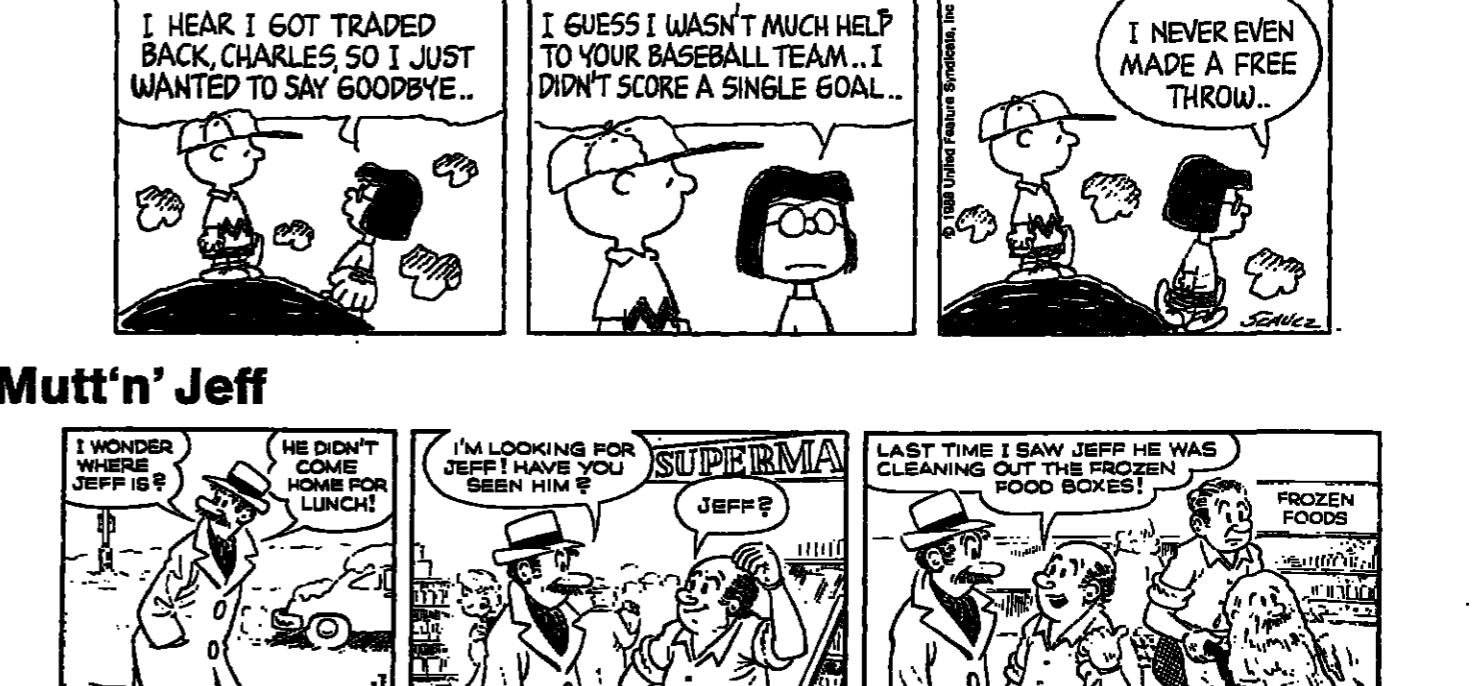
Bell (\$1,933,333), Kirby Puckett (\$1.09 million) and Dawson (\$1.85 million) were the outfielders. Bell was the American League MVP in 1987 and Dawson won the award in the National League.

Peanuts

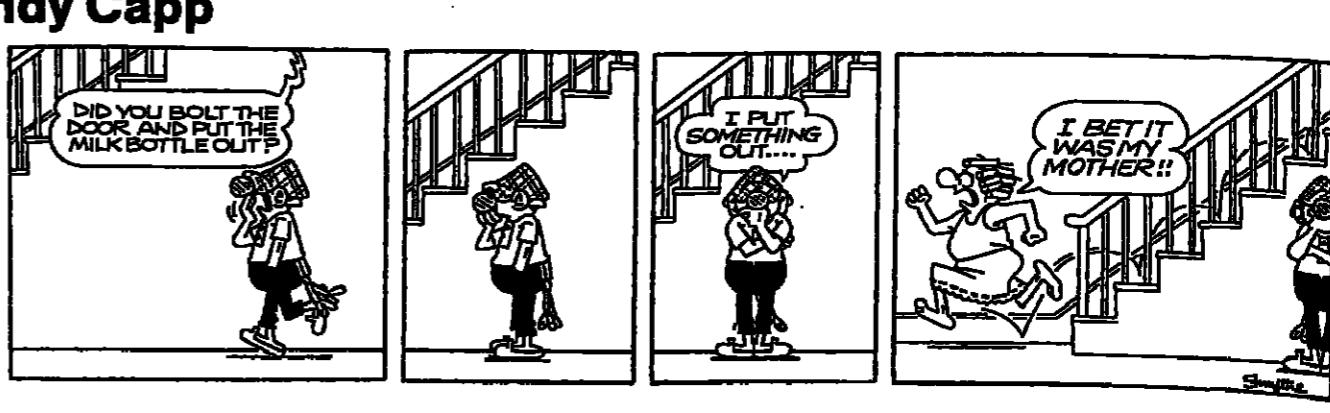
I HEAR I GOT TRADED BACK, CHARLES, SO I JUST WANTED TO SAY GOODBYE...

I GUESS I WASN'T MUCH HELP TO YOUR BASEBALL TEAM... I DIDN'T SCORE A SINGLE GOAL...

I NEVER EVEN MADE A FREE THROW...



Andy Capp



Journalists, Crusade leaders detained

Noriega troops rampage through opposition rally

PANAMA CITY (Agencies) — Soldiers firing into the air burst into the capital's leading hotel and detained opposition leaders and foreign journalists after authorities smashed an anti-government demonstration.

The military confiscated the film of foreign television crews at the Marriott Hotel, which has been used for weeks as an informal headquarters by scores of reporters and leaders of the National Civic Crusade.

Opposition spokespeople said nearly 20 of their leaders were detained. Eight foreign journalists, including Richard Cole of the Associated Press, were taken away and held for about three hours.

The Civic Crusade, a leading anti-government coalition, staged the afternoon protest March 16 in an attempt to force the ouster of Panama's military强人, General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Five leaders of the march were arrested.

The violence Monday coincided with the beginning of the second week of a general strike that has closed down an estimated 90 per cent of Panama's industry and commerce.

Gunmen dressed in civilian clothes but believed to be the members of the Defence Force's state security force, and helmeted soldiers carrying assault rifles, swept into the Marriott about three hours after the street demonstration was put down and forced their way into temporary offices of the U.S. television networks NBC, CBS, ABC and CNN, among others.

They ordered employees out of the suites at gunpoint, then searched the rooms, confiscating the networks' film of the earlier demonstration and other equipment, including gas masks and bullet-proof jackets.

A police officer who declined to identify himself said about 40 people were taken away, includ-

ing Civic Crusade members and journalists, both local and foreign.

The eight foreign reporters were released unharmed.

Cole said the reporters were taken to state security headquarters in Panama City, where authorities searched and interrogated them, photocopied their documents and notes and told them to line up facing a wall.

The reporters were transferred to a baseball field where about 40 other people, at least two of whom appeared to have been beaten, were being processed by army officials.

The reporters were then separated from other detainees and Camargo told them their arrest was a mistake. They were set free.

10,000 demonstrate

Earlier Monday, a crowd of about 10,000 cheering, singing anti-government demonstrators marched toward the central business district, ignoring an order to disperse. They had moved about one kilometre when soldiers attacked.

A water cannon spewed through the line of march spraying people with a choking mixture of water and chemicals.

Behind the truck charged police and soldiers firing birdshot and beating people with 48-centimetre truncheons.

Reporters saw several people hit by shotgun pellets and at least two people trampled as the crowd fled. There was no official account of injuries or arrests.

Monday's demonstration was one of the largest in months. Before the demonstration began, Lieutenant-Colonel Virgilio

Mirones of the Panama Defence Forces urged the protesters to disperse, saying: "We don't want to fight with the Panamanian people. We want to fight the United States."

Arias calls for mediation

Meanwhile, in San Jose, Costa Rican President Oscar Arias, who won the 1987 Nobel Peace Prize, Monday called for the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Panama to mediate an end to that nation's severe political and economic crisis.

Arias told a news conference that he and Spanish President Felipe Gonzalez had agreed to ask Monsignor Marco Antonio McGrath to find the "most peaceful (solution) possible" to the troubles in Panama, which borders Costa Rica.

Police said the woman's bullet-riddled body was found on a fourth-floor landing outside the ANC office in a dilapidated building in Paris' 10th district.

A police inspector on the scene said September was apparently shot between 9 a.m. (0700 GMT) and 10 a.m. as she opened the office.

Police said she was shot five times with a 22 calibre rifle, but declined to speculate on the motives for the killing.

A worker in a neighbouring office found her body and raised the alarm. There was no sign of the killer and neighbours apparently did not hear the five shots.

The ANC, banned since 1960, wages a campaign of bombings and other attacks in opposition to South Africa's policy of apartheid and is based in the Zambian capital Lusaka.

On Monday, South African troops crossed into Botswana and killed four people described by military authorities in Pretoria as ANC "terrorists".

Police cordoned off the Rue des Petites Ecuries, a narrow one-way street near the Gare du Nord railway terminus, to keep reporters away from the scene.

ANC Paris chief gunned down

Latin nations denounce intervention

In another development, in Caracas, Venezuela Latin American nations Monday denounced foreign intervention in Panama and called on the U.S. to end economic measures designed to topple Noriega.

A formal regional position on the crisis in Panama will be drawn up in an emergency meeting of the 26-member Latin American Economic System (SELA). The meeting, requested by Panama, began here Monday.

Individual nations, including Mexico and Venezuela, already indicated their opposition to outside interference in Panama's affairs, without specifically mentioning the U.S. by name.

The Spanish leader also said the presidents "are reasonably optimistic that there will be a rapid solution in Panama."

The newspaper quoted a railway official in Azerbaijan as saying the situation was "thoroughly bad." The official, Garik Sarkisyan, said freight cars had not been unloaded.

About three-quarters of the 157,000 residents of Nagorno-Karabakh, which has been part of neighbouring Azerbaijan since 1923, are ethnic Armenians.

Sporadic protests have been reported in the region since Feb. 13. The latest labour trouble is said to have begun Wednesday after Moscow rejected Armenian demands to annex the region, about the size of Northern Ireland.

Azeris, the dominant ethnic group in Azerbaijan, also were involved in the trouble, Izvestia said.

Azeris join Armenians

"Ethnic Azeri workers arrived at the entrances to their businesses but ... announced: Unless the Armenians come, we will not work," Izvestia reported.

The manager of Stepanakert's only hotel, the Karabakh, said all but essential services were halted.

Police did not interfere with an earlier demonstration Monday in a peaceful manner.

The bread and milk plants are

working. The others are not. Everyone is sitting at home," he said in a telephone conversation.

About 30 per cent of public transport was halted in Stepanakert, a city of about 33,000, the manager said. He described himself as an ethnic Armenian but refused to give his name.

On Monday, Pravda said the success of government-planned improvements for Nagorno-Karabakh hinge on whether the strike ends.

"Any most realistic and well-considered programme cannot be implemented if people do not come to feel a high personal responsibility for the destiny and development of the area and do not get down to work," it said.

The hotel manager said party meetings continued Monday. He predicted the strike would end Tuesday, but Sergei Grigoryants, a Moscow human rights activist who is half Armenian, said it was scheduled to run through Friday.

Yerevan demonstrations

In another development, a dissident source Tuesday said police broke up a demonstration in the Armenian capital by about 50 people who demanded freedom for an arrested nationalist leader and criticised the government.

Also Tuesday, an official newspaper said the plan put forth by government and Communist Party leaders to improve social and economic conditions in the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region will cost up to \$640 million.

"These millions, which are so necessary now for restructuring, the country is giving to Karabakh," said the newspaper Sovetskaya Kultura. Its front-page article traced unrest in Nagorno-Karabakh to poor social and economic conditions. The paper was referring to Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev's proposed economic reforms, known as Perestroika, or restructuring.

The letter, dated last Friday and made public by the governor's office Monday, praised Gorbachev for taking steps to ensure the safety of Armenians in the Azerbaijani republic, but said the citizens of Karabakh and the Armenian republic had demonstrated a desire for reunification in a peaceful manner.

Funny noses reap millions

LONDON (AP) — A day in February when millions of Britons sported red clown noses reaped \$13.5 million (\$25.1 million) for British and African charities, organisers said Monday. "Comic Relief Day" was held for the first time on Feb. 5, and was accompanied by a seven-hour "Laugh-a-thon" on television, which raised the bulk of donations through telephone pledges. Two million donors also paid 50 pence (93 cents) each for a red nose. Bankers in pin stripes, school children, secretaries and others wearing the bulbous badge were a common sight. Even Prince Andrew, second son of Queen Elizabeth II, posed for photographers in a red nose. Organisers said the funds would be used to help famine victims in Africa and poor youth in Britain.

Funny noses reap millions

GOA'S 'aggressive' studies

NEW DELHI (AP) — A lawmaker demanded in parliament Monday that foreign tourists found bathing in the nude on the palm-fringed beaches of Goa be deported to prevent "cultural aggression" against India. Shantaram Naik, a member of the governing Congress Party from Goa, demanded to know from the tourism minister what steps were being taken against nudism. Goa, a favourite tourist beach resort on the western coast of India, is known for its fun and music-loving people. But it also has become identified with permissiveness and nudity, mainly by foreign tourists. Topless foreign women sprawled on the sand have led to a new form of "bird watching" by curious local residents.

A 'star' find

ATLANTA, Georgia (R) — Two American men are awaiting word from a gem expert whether the grapefruit-sized stone they dug from a hole last October might be a giant blue star sapphire worth up to five million dollars. Craig Peden and Steve Meyer found the nearly two-pound (one kilogramme) blue rock in North Carolina, but at first they thought it was unlikely the stone could be valuable. "We thought if it's this easy to find, a lot of people would be finding them," Peden said Monday. The two, boyhood friends and amateur rock collectors, traded their pretty blue stone back and forth until it finally ended up on Meyer's desk at a hospital, where it attracted the attention of one of his patients.

"You've got a potential blockbuster," Meyer recalled the patient told him. Peden said the 4.5 inch by 1.5 inch (11.5 by 4 centimetre) stone is "a perfect crystal," a symmetrical six-sided stone with an approximate weight of 1,500 carats. A Dallas gem expert is examining it to determine its value.

Key Senate panel

approves INF treaty

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S.-Soviet arms reduction treaty won a significant boost Monday when the Senate Armed Services Committee voted 18-2 to recommend its approval by the full Senate.

The Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) treaty would eliminate Soviet SS-20 missiles aimed at Europe and Asia along with U.S. cruise and Pershing 2 missiles deployed in Europe.

The treaty would also scrap shorter-range missiles above the 300-mile range and would set up unprecedented verification arrangements.

Reporting on the vote, Committee Chairman Sam Nunn said it reflected a conclusion that on balance the panel believed the positive features of the treaty outweighed its weaknesses.

Although the Armed Services Committee does not have jurisdiction over treaties, its role in national security and its generally hawkish stance gave extra weight to its verdict on the accord.

Nunn, a Georgia Democrat, reported the result of his panel's imminent examination of the treaty to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Bush's comments came at a

time when the

Senate

was

in

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